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1941 - 1991

Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-91-069
Wednesday
10 April 1991

Daily Report
East Asia

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Japan

Kaifu Explains Ozawa Resignation to Cabinet

OW0904233091 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] After today's cabinet meeting, Prime Minister Kaifu explained to cabinet members why Ichiro Ozawa resigned as secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and urged them to cooperate with the party in carrying out state affairs.

Explaining why Mr. Ozawa resigned as party secretary general, Prime Minister Kaifu said: Although I strongly urged Mr. Ozawa to remain at his post, he was firmly resolved to resign and I could not dissuade him from doing so. Then, the prime minister asked the cabinet members to cooperate with the party in implementing state affairs and said that the new secretary, General Obuchi, has thus far held important posts in the party and believes that he will carry out his job well.

Speaking at an LDP executive meeting held this morning, Secretary General Obuchi said: I assumed the post of party secretary general following Mr. Ozawa's abrupt resignation. I want to run the party smoothly with your support. During the meeting, the new secretary general of the ruling party also stressed that he would seek reconciliation among party officials after quickly defusing party confusion caused by the Tokyo gubernatorial election.

Ozawa Resignation Viewed

OW0904154791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1219 GMT 9 Apr 91

[By Jocelyn Ford]

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—Ichiro Ozawa may have relinquished his No. 2 post in the governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), but his aspirations for progressing to the No. 1 position—which carries the prime minister's job along with it—remain undiminished, political analysts say.

"He'll be back very soon, as soon as the time is right," said Takashi Inoguchi, professor of Political Science at the University of Tokyo.

Ozawa stepped down as LDP secretary general Monday ostensibly to take responsibility for party "confusion" after the loss of the LDP Headquarters' candidate in Tokyo's gubernatorial election.

But the move is widely seen as a shrewd maneuver aimed at shoring up his power base within the party, as well as deflecting public criticism for his domineering leadership style.

By opting to resign immediately after election results showed a landslide victory for incumbent Shunichi Suzuki over former NHK anchorman Hisanori Isomura, the official LDP candidate, Ozawa was able to capitalize on a situation that could have turned against him, analysts say.

Had he stayed on, Ozawa would have been a target of criticism for his autocratic decision to override the Tokyo chapter of the LDP, which backed Suzuki, both from within the party, and among the public at large.

Indeed, even before the election tally was completed Monday television interviewers were on the streets asking Tokyoites who in the LDP is to blame for the election debacle. The overwhelming, if unscientific, conclusion was Ozawa.

His resignation stopped the questioners in their tracks.

"At the moment it may seem that he has sacrificed his post, but looking toward the future, it will be highly evaluated as an act of integrity," said Professor Tadashi Iyasu, a political sociologist at Ryukoku University.

"Japanese don't like people who cling to power," Iyasu said.

Ozawa, at 48, a tender age by Japanese standards for political leaders, could afford to cut out because he is still relatively young, according to Nobuo Tomita, an author on contemporary politics. "Out of consideration for his future, it was better to quit now."

Ozawa was also seen as gathering accolades for sacrificing himself to protect Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu from potential unrest within the party, as well as to maintain good relations with the United States.

Ozawa decided against supporting 80-year-old Suzuki in a deal with centrist Komeito, which in exchange agreed to help pass legislation on Japan's 9 billion dollar contribution to U.S.-led multilateral forces in the Persian Gulf.

According to close associates, Ozawa in private maintains he is "tired" after 20 months as secretary general, and talks about traveling to Taiwan, or perhaps France, in the near future.

An LDP secretary general is responsible for coordinating policy within the party, negotiating with opposition parties in Diet deliberations, and overseeing selection of candidates and dispersal of election funds.

And Ozawa is no pariah—his own faction, that of former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita welcomed him back with an honorary position as acting chairman.

The post, specially created, assures Ozawa a chance to meet with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev when he visits here next week, and refresh his acquaintance with Gorbachev from a trip to Moscow last month.

"The consensus among the Takeshita faction was that it was better for Ozawa to resign to mitigate grievances and dissent among other LDP factions," says Inoguchi of the University of Tokyo. The Takeshita faction is the largest of five LDP factions.

Meanwhile, analysts are watching for Ozawa to resurface in the not-too-distant future, perhaps as soon as fall, when Kaifu's two- year term expires.

With a six-month breather, Ozawa could be in line for a senior cabinet posting come October. He has served as home affairs minister, but is yet to hold the portfolio of foreign minister or finance minister, two posts considered qualifiers for prime ministership.

Until then, Ozawa, who occupies a seat in the House of Representatives, is likely to remain active within his faction, and bide his time by cultivating international contacts, which are seen as increasingly important for Japanese leaders.

Takeshita Faction To Continue Cabinet Support

OW0904182591 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] The Takeshita faction of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] held an extraordinary meeting today, where former Deputy Prime Minister Shin Kanemaru, chairman of the faction, emphasized that the Takeshita faction for its part will continue to support the Kaifu cabinet.

Today's plenary session follows yesterday's appointment of one of the faction's members, former Chief Cabinet Secretary Keizo Obuchi, as the party's secretary general. Obuchi replaced Ichiro Ozawa, who resigned to take responsibility for intraparty confusion caused by the split among conservatives in the Tokyo gubernatorial election.

At the meeting, former Deputy Prime Minister Kanemaru said that Ozawa had told him he resigned not because of the defeat in the Tokyo gubernatorial election but in order to ensure the LDP's future unity through his own resignation. He therefore accepted the fact of Ozawa's resignation. He commented that if former General Secretary Ozawa's resignation leads to the downfall of the Kaifu cabinet, the resignation would be meaningless. Therefore, Kanemaru called for cooperation in ensuring progress for the Kaifu cabinet in the future. Thus, he stressed his view that the Takeshita faction, for its part, will continue to support the Kaifu cabinet.

Moreover, among those dietmen present at today's plenary session, opinions were stated that those LDP dietmen elected from Tokyo who supported incumbent Governor Shunichi Suzuki, in spite of the party's decision should take some responsibility.

In reply, Kanemaru said that Shigeru Kasuya, chairman of the LDP Tokyo Chapter, had already offered his sincerest apologies. Kanemaru stated his hope that all LDP dietmen would submit themselves to thorough self-examination. He thus indicated that it would not be a good idea to let this issue lead to punitive actions.

Tokyo Governor-Elect Pays Courtesy Call on Kaifu

OW1004053291 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Shunichi Suzuki, who was reelected to a fourth term as the Tokyo governor on Sunday, paid a courtesy visit to Prime Minister Kaifu today, and asked for Kaifu's support for his Tokyo administration.

Tokyo chapters of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and the Democratic Socialist Party [DSP] fought in the Tokyo gubernatorial election against their national headquarters for the first time. Having been reelected, Suzuki said that he wants smooth and cooperative relations with the national government and LDP Headquarters. Hence, Suzuki called on Kaifu at the prime minister's residence this afternoon, following the election. Suzuki told Kaifu that he wants Kaifu to support his Tokyo administration despite problems arising from the election.

Kaifu replied that each side might have caused troubles to the other by disagreeing over the election. However, he paid deep respect to the election results. He added that, because there has been no discord between the two sides over Tokyo administration policies, he will continue to support the Suzuki administration.

After the meeting, Suzuki told reporters that there would be no problems in restoring relations with the central government affected before and during the election campaign, and in maintaining cooperative relations with the central government in the future.

Nakayama Briefs Committee on Cambodian Talks

OW1004122291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0949 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—Cambodian resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk will invite Khmer Rouge representatives to Pyongyang soon to brief them on Japan's peace initiative on Cambodia, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said Wednesday.

Speaking at a meeting of the Budget Committee of the House of Councilors, Nakayama said he met with Sihanouk in Beijing last Saturday and the resistance leader had said he would invite Khmer Rouge representatives to a meeting in the North Korean capital.

Nakayama said Sihanouk was to leave Beijing shortly for Pyongyang.

The foreign minister said Sihanouk will also invite Tadashi Ikeda, minister at the Japanese Embassy in Bangkok, to Pyongyang to be present at his meeting with Khmer Rouge representatives.

Japan has made it known that it will support the comprehensive United Nations peace plan that calls for talks and an agreement among all Cambodian parties concerned to restore peace in the Southeast Asian nation.

Tokyo has also said it would help rebuild Cambodia after peace has been restored.

The Cambodian parties include the Vietnam-backed Heng Samrin Government in Phnom Penh and the three-faction coalition anti-Phnom Penh Government, which includes the Khmer Rouge.

Nakayama said in his talks with Sihanouk he asked the prince to persuade the Khmer Rouge to change its negative stance toward the Japanese plan, designed to augment the UN peace effort in Cambodia.

The UN plan, agreed on by the five permanent members of the Security Council, also calls for UN administration of the country during an interim period leading to free elections.

Accord on Tarim Oil Survey Signed With PRC

OW1004120291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1050 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—Japan and China have signed a memorandum on a joint venture to conduct a geological survey for the development of oil resources in the Tarim Basin in northeastern [as received] China, the Japan National Oil Corp. reported Wednesday.

The agreement calls for the Japanese corporation to provide about 6.6 billion yen for the undertaking.

Corporation officials said an expert team will survey the underground structure at the basin by means of artificial earthquakes starting this fall.

Tarim Basin is one of the world's major untapped oilfields, with oil and natural gas reserves estimated at 10 billion barrels and 8.3 trillion cubic meters, the officials said.

The Japanese corporation will be the first foreign partner to conduct a survey in the region.

Government Welcomes Gorbachev Visit to ROK

OW1004125791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0857 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—Japan welcomed Wednesday Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's plan to visit South Korea after visiting Japan next week.

Top government spokesman Misoji Sakamoto said that Gorbachev's scheduled meeting with South Korean President No Tae-u demonstrates that the Soviet Union is concerned about the affairs of Asia, as well as Europe.

"I expect the visit will help deepen friendly relations between the Soviet Union and South Korea, and will be beneficial for both countries," he said.

Gorbachev is slated to meet with No on Cheju Island, the southernmost point in South Korea, on April 19 on his way home from Japan.

The location was chosen in consideration of Moscow's longtime alliance with North Korea.

Gorbachev has yet to visit Pyongyang.

The summit between Gorbachev and No will be the third since last summer, and the second since the two countries established diplomatic relations last September 30.

Preparations for Kaifu's USSR Visit Begin

OW0904185491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1330 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—The government has begun preparations for a visit to the Soviet Union by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu expected to take place in August or September, government sources said Tuesday.

A Japan-Soviet joint statement to be issued after planned talks between Kaifu and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in Tokyo next week is certain to include a passage on reciprocal visits by the leaders, the sources said.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama will head to the Soviet Union in May or June for further negotiations on the timing of Kaifu's trip, they said.

Kaifu is expected to schedule a trip to Moscow after the London summit of seven major industrial nations starting July 15 in order to resolve the bilateral territoral dispute, according to the sources.

Kaifu also apparently hopes to avoid becoming a political "lame duck" by scheduling an important diplomatic event before his tenure as president of the Liberal Democratic Party expires at the end of October.

But an early visit depends on progress made in negotiations on the territorial issue in Tokyo next week and the domestic political climate following the resignation on Monday of LDP [Liberal Democratic Party] Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa.

Gorbachev's Upcoming Visit, Itinerary Viewed

OW0904160491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1520 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will hold at least three rounds of talks with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu during his April 16-19 stay in Japan, with the two countries' territorial dispute high on the agenda, government sources said Tuesday.

During his stay in Japan, Gorbachev is to meet business leaders, as well as Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko. He is also planning to visit Kyoto, Osaka, and Nagasaki, the sources said.

On April 16, the Soviet leader will be welcomed in a ceremony at the state guesthouse after arriving at

Haneda Airport from Moscow. He will then meet the emperor and the empress at the Imperial Palace.

In the afternoon, he will meet Tokyo Governor Shunichi Suzuki and hold his first round of talks with Kaifu. In the evening, he is scheduled to attend a Soviet arts festival and a state banquet at the Imperial Palace.

On April 17, Gorbachev and Kaifu will hold their second and third round of talks. The Soviet president will also attend a luncheon sponsored by Japanese economic organizations and address a plenary session of the Diet's lower house.

He will also give a lecture to students from six Japanese universities on the same day and attend a dinner party hosted by Kaifu.

The fourth round of Kaifu-Gorbachev talks may be set on April 18, the government sources said. On that day, Gorbachev is slated to tour the new Tokyo metropolitan government building in Shinjuku and a factory in Yokohama.

Both houses of the Diet have planned a luncheon that day. In the afternoon, Gorbachev is to sign documents on Japan-Soviet exchanges.

Gorbachev and Kaifu are expected to sign 11 pacts and documents on issues such as Japan's support for Gorbachev's "perestroyka" restructuring effort, and aid to victims of the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

Also on April 18, Gorbachev is scheduled to attend a press conference, the World Children's Festival, and a reception at a Tokyo hotel jointly sponsored by political parties, the business world, and social organizations. On April 19, the last day of his visit, he is to stop in three western cities, Kyoto, Osaka and Nagasaki, before leaving Japan.

Gorbachev is expected to pay homage at the Russian cemetery in Nagasaki but will not visit sites related to the 1945 U.S. atomic bombing of the city.

Meanwhile, First Lady Raisa Gorbachev, who will accompany the president, will attend a performance of Japan's traditional kabuki theater and visit schools for physically disabled children among other activities in Japan, the sources said.

After leaving Japan, Gorbachev will visit South Korea's Cheju Island on his way back to Moscow to meet President No Tae-u, a Soviet Government spokesman announced Tuesday.

Gorbachev To Meet SDP's Doi

OW1004142291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1232 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—Social Democratic Party Chairwoman Takako Doi will meet with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev on April 17 in Tokyo for talks on territorial and other bilateral issues, sources concerned with Japan-Soviet relations said Wednesday.

She will be the only Japanese opposition party leader to have a separate individual meeting with Gorbachev, who will arrive in Tokyo on April 16 on a state visit to Japan.

The sources said Doi and Gorbachev will meet over breakfast at a Tokyo hotel.

Their agenda is likely to include such issues as Japan's demand for the return of four northern islands under Soviet control since the end of World War II, Japan-Soviet economic relations, and various other issues central to improving relations between the two neighboring countries.

It has been reported that because of his tight schedule during his stay in Japan from April 16-19 Gorbachev would not meet political leaders in individual sessions apart from Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and others in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

Doi was originally scheduled to hold talks with Gorbachev in Moscow on April 3, but canceled the trip at the request of the Soviet Union.

Other Japanese opposition leaders will have a chance to meet Gorbachev at a luncheon given jointly in Gorbachev's honor on April 18 by the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the House of Councilors.

Government To Sign Fishery Pact With USSR

OW1004100791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0940 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—Japan and the Soviet Union have agreed in principle to sign a fishery cooperation agreement during Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Japan next week, government sources reported Wednesday.

The sources said the pact is aimed at expanding bilateral cooperation in fisheries, including development of resources in the Soviet territorial waters and promotion of joint ventures by private enterprises.

Gorbachev is scheduled to visit Japan April 16-19, the first Soviet leader ever to travel to Japan.

The two countries have so far agreed to sign 13 agreements and documents, including one for Japan's scientific and technological cooperation with the Soviet Union.

The sources said the fishery accord will be announced in the form of a joint statement.

Japan hopes the agreement will enable it to secure stable salmon hauls in Soviet waters in return for its direct investment in and transfer of technology to the Soviet Union through joint ventures, the sources said.

They said final agreement on the fisheries cooperation depends largely on the progress of negotiations over Japan's claim to four Soviet-held North Pacific islands.

Report on Islands Issue Submitted to Kaifu

OW1004094991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0831 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—Japan should offer to use the four disputed northern islands as a base for Japanese economic cooperation with the Soviet Far East in the event of their being relinquished by Moscow, an influential private forum said in a report submitted to Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Wednesday.

The report, presented to Kaifu by former Foreign Minister Saburo Okita, chairman of the Japan Forum on International Relations, also advised that the thousands of Soviet citizens now residing on the islands be given the right to choose between continued residence and compensated emigration.

The report also suggested that Tokyo should break with the West over Soviet aid policy if Moscow agrees to cede the four islands the Soviets seized at the end of World War II.

A report on the policy recommendations, signed by 70 politicians, academics and business executives, was released just a week before Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev is due in Japan for an historical four-day visit.

The dispute over the sovereignty of the four islands off Hokkaido—Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomais—is expected to figure high in at least two rounds of talks between Gorbachev and Kaifu.

Japanese officials regard a settlement of the territorial issue as the single most important factor in measuring the success of the Gorbachev trip, the first by a Kremlin leader.

The report said the Japanese Government should use the prospect of economic aid to the Soviet Union as a carrot to tempt Moscow to return the islands.

"We must not hesitate to extend economic aid to the Soviet Union if we have judged that our economic power can influence a solution to the territorial dispute," the report said.

Briefing reporters on the policy report, Kenichi Ito, professor of international politics at Aoyama Gakuin University and president of the forum, dismissed the idea that Gorbachev may try to play the "Korean card" against Japan by seeking economic cooperation with South Korea.

"Given the difference of scale in the economy, the Japanese side has never been shaken by the use of the Koren card. Korean economic cooperation cannot be a substitute for Japanese cooperation," Ito said.

The Kremlin announced Tuesday that Gorbachev will stop over in South Korea after his trip to Japan and meet with South Korean President No Tae-u during a brief stay on Cheju, the resort island on the southern tip of the Korean peninsula.

South Korea, which set up diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union in September, recently offered 3 billion dollars in credit to Moscow.

Japan has withheld any significant aid to the stricken Soviet economy pending a solution to the territorial dispute, which has soured relations between the two nations for most of the postwar period.

The authors of the report gave their blessing to the government's declared policy of offering generous aid to the Soviet Union in face of possible displeasure from Washington and Western Europe in view of Gorbachev's shift in his perestroyka policy.

"Depending on the results of the transition, Japan might be forced to go her own way in dealing with the Soviet Union while criticism against Moscow grows in the West," the report said.

Filling a void in the discussion of the territorial issue, the report laid out the group's vision for the future of the disputed islands in the event of their being transferred to Japan.

"Economic activities in the territories should be based on the system of Japan-Soviet joint ventures," it said, adding that the area should be used "as a base for offering Japan's cooperation and support for the vitalization of the economy of the Soviet Far East."

The report said as to the Soviet citizens living on the four islands, their "continued residence or emigration must be left to their free choice, with guarantees provided, if necessary, to settle elsewhere in or outside Japan."

The report called for the islands to be placed under direct control of the central government in Tokyo and for the creation of a kind of "Northern Territories Agency" for their administration and development.

The proposals came in contrast to the Japanese Government's reluctance to openly discuss post-settlement scenarios until there is a clearer sign that the islands will indeed be ceded.

One ministry source explained that if Japan were to bring up the modalities of the islands reversion at this stage when the Soviets have yet to indicate a willingness to part with all of them, it would weaken Japan's position in bilateral negotiations.

The authors of the Japan Forum report, however, were pessimistic about a quick solution to the territorial dispute during Gorbachev's trip, pointing to the domestic political turmoil in the Soviet Union.

"The timing of his visit is the worst possible," Ito said.

Underscoring the symbolic value of the Gorbachev visit, Ito said "the simple fact that it is the first visit by a Soviet head of state has important significance of a different dimension. The impact will be multiplied—success or failure."

Official Urges Western Coordination in USSR Aid

OW1004114991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1116 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—Japan should coordinate any financial assistance to the Soviet Union with leading Western nations, a senior Finance Ministry official said Wednesday.

The official, who declined to be named, said the government should maintain this stance even if progress is made in Soviet- Japanese negotiations on their decades-long territorial dispute.

Japan's claim to four islands off Hokkaido seized by the Soviet Union at the end of World War II is likely to be the main topic discussed by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and Japanese officials during his April 16-19 visit to Japan.

The official said Japan should keep in mind an agreement on aid to the Soviet Union reached at the Houston summit of seven leading industrial nations last July.

The leaders attending the session agreed to give priority to technology transfers in their assistance to the Soviet Union and urged Moscow to carry out drastic reforms and scale down its arms industry.

Cautious Response To Sending Minesweepers to Gulf

OW1004070791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0607 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 (KYODO)—Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto responded cautiously Wednesday to a proposal by the business community that Japan dispatch minesweepers to the Persian Gulf.

"We have to think carefully about this problem. At this point the government has not reached a decision," Sakamoto told a news conference.

Sakamoto also denied a news report that Saudi Arabia has requested Japan to send minesweepers to help clear a route for oil tankers.

A senior government official said public opinion will determine whether or not Japan dispatches minesweepers.

"Even if Saudi Arabia makes a request, the decision lies with public opinion. It depends on Social Democratic Party (SDP) Chairwoman Takako Doi," said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The SDP, which formerly called itself the Japan Socialist Party, has voiced strong opposition to the overseas dispatch of Self- Defense Forces personnel for war-related operations.

On Monday, the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) said it favors dispatching minesweepers to help clear the estimated 1,000 mines deposited in the Gulf by Iraq.

The chairman of Keidanren, Gaishi Hiraiwa, said such a move would not violate Japan's war-renouncing constitution because the ships would be working under peacetime conditions.

Following the Keidanren statement, the YOMIURI SHIMBUN, a mass circulation daily, reported that the Saudi Arabian Government made a request to Japan via Arabian Oil Co., a Tokyo-based oil company, to help clear mines that are blocking the company's loading facilities.

The Saudi Arabian Embassy in Tokyo said it was unaware of any such request.

Kaifu Remarks on Possible Rice Liberalization

OW1004074391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0646 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Wedensday hinted that Japan may open part of its rice market.

"(U.S. President George Bush) told me that the U.S. wants to sell its rice in the Japanese market," Kaifu said at the Budget Committee in the House of Councilors in reference to his meeting with the President in California last week.

Kaifu said the agricultural problems, including rice, should be solved through frank talks with the U.S., which has a waiver article exempting the country from liberalizing duties on agricultural products, and the European Community, which has a surcharge system for farm produce.

Kaifu also said the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which includes the agricultural issue, must succeed, suggesting that Japan may open its rice market partically in the future.

Touching on the visit of five of the six-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) expected this month through early May, Kaifu said he will discuss Japan's economic aid to these countries, which have suffered from economic damage resulting from the Persian Gulf war.

Kaifu said he will put economic help, including Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA), on a main agenda in talks with leaders of Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, and Brunei during his visit to the countries.

On the visit of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to Japan next week, Kaifu said he will make every effort to improve Japan-Soviet relations in frank discussions with the Soviet president.

DSP Chairman To Visit U.S. 7-14 May

OW1004113591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1102 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—Moderate opposition Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) Chairman Keigo Ouchi will lead his party's official mission to the United States from May 7-14, the party announced Wednesday.

It will be Ouchi's first trip to Washington since he assumed the top party post last year. It will also be the DSP's first official mission to the United States since 1987.

Ouchi and members of his mission are expected to hold meetings with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Defense Secretary Dick Cheney in Washington on the establishment of international order in the Persian Gulf region.

They will also confer with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in New York.

Insurance Council Proposes Removal of Barriers

OW0904191891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1230 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO—A governmental advisory panel said Tuesday it has formulated a plan for liberalization of the financial market, including removal of the barriers separating banking, securities and insurance businesses.

The insurance council, an advisory body to the finance minister, said the report also calls for insurance companies to raise their capital-to-assets ratio to the level required for banks and securities firms by the Switzerland-based Bank for International Settlements (BIS).

The BIS standard calls for banks and securities companies to achieve an 8 percent capital-to-assets ratio by the end of 1993.

The report urges the government to remove the existing barriers separating banking, securities and insurance businesses and to help promote reciprocal entry of life and nonlife insurance firms into the insurance market for the sound growth of management, the council said.

The report also calls for an easing of controls on foreign capital insurance companies operating in Japan.

The council has been working on the report in keeping with the government's policy of liberalizing Japan's financial market.

Council officials said the report is based on the judgment that a liberalization of the insurance market will be inevitable to promote the ongoing globalization process.

They said the report will be officially adopted at the council's plenary session to be held later this month, the officials said.

On the basis of the recommendation, the Finance Ministry will revise the existing regulations governing the insurance business, the first revision in 50 years, they said.

The council withheld a decision on whether to allow insurance companies to handle corporate debentures and privately placed securities pending discussions by the securities and exchange council.

The securities council plans to finalize a report on the issue in June.

Central Bank Governor Supports Price Monitoring

OW1004124591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0916 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 10 KYODO—The Governor of the Bank of Japan, Yasushi Mieno, on Wednesday stressed the need to closely monitor domestic price trends to stem a possible resurgence of inflation.

Speaking at a meeting of the House of Councilors Budget Committee, Mieno said moves are afoot among manufacturers to raise prices of their products amid rising production costs. The yen's exchange rate against the U.S. dollar has been declining, also increasing inflationary pressure, he said.

"In such a situation, the Bank of Japan is closely following price trends," the central bank governor said.

Mieno ruled out the possiblity of the Japanese economy "stalling" in the foreseeable future, although he said it appears to be slowing down. He said corporate capital spending and consumer spending are still strong.

Appearing before the same committee, Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto expressed confidence that the economy will achieve the officially targeted growth of 3.8 percent in fiscal 1991, ending next March, pointing to strong capital and consumer spending.

Firm To Launch Digital Mobile Phone Service

OW0904191691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1338 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo, April 9 KYODO— Japan Telecom Co., a Japan Railways (JR) group-led new common carrier, plans to start a digital mobile telephone business in the Tokyo Metropolitan area as early as 1994 President Koichi Sakata said Tuesday.

At present, mobile phones are based entirely on analogue mode. As of last January, more than 800,000 such phones were used throughout Japan, raising concern over a possible shortage in radio wave for allocation to common carriers.

Hence, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications plans a shift to the digital mode.

As Nissan Motor Co. has already announced a plan to introduce digital phone systems in Tokyo and Nagoya, Japan Telecom aims to start its new system all over Japan utilizing JR's national network, Sakata said.

He said that if everything goes well technically, Japan Telecom could provide the service around 1994.

North Korea

CPRF Official Views N-S Talks Resumption

SK1004123891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1054 GMT 10 Apr 91

["North Side's Stand on Inter-Korean Dialogue"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 10 (KCNA)—The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF) today arranged a news briefing for home and foreign reporters and clarified the North side's stand on inter-Korean dialogue.

An Pyong-su, vice-chairman of the committee, told the reporters that although the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Government are sincere in the matter of dialogue and reunification, the South Korean authorities are now staging the large-scale "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, becoming more undisguised in their moves for unilateral U.N. membership and more harshly suppressing pro-reunification patriotic forces.

Stating that the South Korean authorities' negative approach toward the question of reunification is unpardonable on the part of us who aspire after reunification, he clarified the North side's stand on dialogue and reunification as follows:

Firstly, dialogue between the authorities of the North and the South must go parallel with nongovernmental dialogue for reunification.

Of course, we attach great importance to dialogue between the authorities. But, no less importance we attach to nongovernmental dialogue for reunification and consider that the way must be paved for nongovernmental dialogue for reunification.

From this stand, we hold that the ban on nongovernmental dialogue must be quickly lifted and elementary conditions and circumstances be ensured for having nongovernmental talks along with dialogue between the authorities.

Secondly, exchange and cooperation between the North and the South in non-political fields, must go parallel with those in political field.

We give priority to political cooperation and exchange out of the regulative role of politics, but we are ready to solve the matter in parallel with non-political cooperation and exchange, taking the South Korean side's argument into consideration.

But one must not evade discussing matters by contending that this thing can be done and that cannot be. Moreover, we cannot reconcile ourselves to the attempt to shelve political exchange indefinitely, insisting only on non-political exchange.

Out of this stand, we make it clear that we will promote non-political cooperation and exchange in keeping with the progress of political cooperation and exchange in the future.

Thirdly, a political consultative conference for national reunification in which the authorities and representatives of political parties and organizations in the North and the South would participate should be convened in order to reach a national agreement on the method of national reunification.

If an agreement is reached on the comprehensive direction and ways of solving the reunification question, all the side issues related to the realization of peace and peaceful reunification of the country will be smoothly settled.

We consider that this important matter should be discussed at a political consultative conference for national reunification which may reflect the will of the whole nation.

If it is impossible to have such a conference right now, political parties and organisations should contact each other and actively promote dialogue.

Fourthly, there should be a change in the South Korean authorities' anti-dialogue, anti-reunification stand if the North-South high-level talks are to be resumed immediately.

The prospect of the high-level talks with the South Korean authorities is very gloomy as long as they continue to seek antagonism, confrontation and division. Even if talks open, a substantial progress can hardly be expected.

If the South Korean authorities are interested in the high-level talks, they must change their fundamental stance and attitude toward the talks first of all.

As a token of the change of attitude, affirmative steps should be taken as regards 1. The question of adopting a nonaggression declaration, 2. The question of the two sides continuing discussion at least till they have agreed in the matter of U.N. membership, 3. The question of releasing the arrested visitors to the North including woman student Yim Su-kyong, Father Mun Kyu-hyon and Mr. Yu Won-ho and activists for reunification including students Im Chong-sok and Song Kap-sok, the questions of opening the road of nongovernmental dialogue for reunification, abolishing the anti-reunification "National Security Law" and allowing activities for the formation of the South side's promotion headquarters of the Pan-Korean Alliance for National Reunification (Pomminnyon).

The South Korean authorities must bear responsibility for having driven the high-level talks to the verge of rupture and pay a due price for its consequences.

We will watch with patience what sincerity they show toward the afore-said matters.

Lastly, we would like to say that we cannot but be skeptical about the credibility of the South Korean authorities, our dialogue partner.

At present, the people's distrust in politics, distrust in the authorities and the chief executive in particular, has reached the culminating point in South Korea.

If the South Korean chief executive really wants to have something done for national reunification in the rest of his tenure, he must not hesitate to take dramatic steps conducive to unity and reunification, turning back to the national stand, before it is too late.

We consider that the North-South high-level talks should be resumed as early as possible and it should be fruitful talks under all circumstances.

We will continue to make sincere efforts to have a substantial dialogue for reunification with the South Korean authorities and induce them to change their attitude and, at the same time, strive to realize multifaceted nongovernmental dialogue for reunification.

An Pyong-su answered questions put by reporters.

It does not always mean that when nongovernmental dialogue is not held, the high-level talks will not be held either, but we do not rule out this possibility, he said.

Noting that the birth of a unified table tennis team will play a positive role in fostering the sentiments for national unity and reunification, he stressed:

We hope that the North and the South will proceed overseas as unified teams not only in sports but in all other domains and that this will lead to the entry of the North and the South into the United Nations with one seat.

We expect bilateral and multilateral dialogues between political parties and politicians and brisk contacts and dialogues between people of all social standings for the convocation of a political consultative conference for national reunification.

South's Seeking of UN Membership Condemned

SK1004071791 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0015 GMT 8 Apr 91

[NODONG SINMUN 8 April commentary: "Anti-National Crime Intended To Add to Misfortunes and Sufferings of Fellow Countrymen and To Endanger the Future of the Nation"]

[Text] In a commentator's article in the 19 February edition of this newspaper, we had warned the South Korean authorities against rackets for unilateral entry into the United Nations.

This article reflected deep worries of fellow countrymen over the the South Korean authorities' reckless and rash actions which damage the national demand that the issue of UN membership should be resolved in the interest of national reunification and the nation's future.

However, in defiance of such a warning, voices urging an attempt for unilateral UN membership are more clamorously resounding in South Korea recently through the mouths of relevant officials in the foreign ministry and other unidentified figures.

Their remarks noted that they will make full-scale efforts for UN membership, that in a few months they will submit a document pertaining to UN membership, and that they will unilaterally push for the entry into the United Nations apart from North-South dialogue. Thus, they are frantically running amok to create an atmosphere for unilateral UN membership by talking about even the name of the secretary general of the United Nations.

If the brains of the rulers fell ill, the political consequences are indeed tragic. They failed to look straight at the stern reality in which the spirit pursuing one Korea is being vigorously formed within the nation.

In the separatists' eyes, the historic 15 August pannational meeting last year must have seemed merely a mass rally of heretics, and such joint festivals as joint cheers, reunification soccer, and reunification music concerts merely as exchange. However, if one looks at the situation, one will realize that all these were a historic event which confirmed the idea of one Korea cherished by fellow countrymen in their hearts.

Today, when a little more than a year has passed since that time, we are looking at one Korea which came as a reality.

Sportsmen in the North and the South declared at home and abroad the formation of a single team to participate in the international table-tennis championship and soccer game, and table-tennis players have already joined the single team.

For the first time in the history of division, one Korea has appeared in the sports field in the name of Korea, which is widely known to the entire world.

For this situation, the fellow countrymen in the North and South, the Korean residents in Japan who belong to the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan [Chongnyon] and to the Federation of Korean Residents in Japan [Mindan], and all other compatriots at home and abroad are overflowing with joy. World people and even those from the sports field extend words of praise for the birth of a single team.

All of the people at home and abroad rejoice because this single team reflects the original appearance of Korea, which has lived as one state for several thousands of years, and because the future of a peaceful and reunified Korea without division and confrontation is guaranteed.

The formation of the single team, which symbolizes one Korea, is the victory of neither South nor North, nor is it the victory of the ideology and system of one side. It is the victory of our people which surpasses the boundaries of the North and South; it is the victory of the national ideal transcending ideologies and systems; and it is the historic victory of the line of reunification and unity over the line of division and confrontation.

In spite of this situation, at this very time the South Korean authorities claim that they will unilaterally enter the United Nations. How foolish an act it is, running counter to reality!

Sportsmen's participation in international games as a single team, and the entry of the North and South into the United Nations for a single seat, are not different from each other at all, even from a common-sense point of view.

Therefore, the fellow countrymen who aspire for reunification raise the following questions to the South Korean authorities. Since the sportsmen have formed a single team, what is the reason that the North and South cannot enter the United Nations as a single team? At a time when the sportsmen have agreed on the single name of the team, on the single flag of the team, and even on the single song of the team, why should we step back to the road of legalizing two Koreas, even though we cannot establish at once a unified government with one national title, one flag, and one national anthem?

If the South Korean authorities are truly the party with the responsibility for politics and if they are truly interested in reunification, they themselves should take the initiative in coming to the international arena as one. Is this not reasonable?

Such questions are indeed logical and natural. However, the South Korean authorities' answer to these questions is that they will unilaterally enter the United Nations at any cost and that there is no need to further discuss this issue with the North.

This exposes their mean political level lower than that of sportsmen and their distorted national sense. This also clearly shows the ugly nature of shameless fellows who are running wild without knowing shame and prestige.

We consider that the birth of a single team should be deservedly linked with the entry into the United Nations with a single seat. We strongly maintain once again that if the North and the South are to enter the United Nations, they should enter with a single seat.

There is a proverb that if there is the will, there is the road to achieve it. The entry of the North and the South into the United Nations with a single seat, just as their participation in international games as a single team, will not be restricted by any international regulation and by any other country but totally depends on the decision of the parties concerned.

The entry of the North and the South into the United Nations with a single seat based on agreement without confrontation will not make the position of other countries and the United Nations difficult but will put their minds at rest. Thus, who on earth will oppose this?

The South Korean authorities' claim that the entry into the United Nations with a single seat is not realistic is a sophism to conceal their indifference to this matter.

It is now perfectly clear that the South Korean authorities are not interested in reunification but division. Their insistence on unification of systems by prevailing over communism is intended to keep division at any cost and wait for a chance of reunification by prevailing over communism while living separated.

Their northern politics and scheme for unilateral entry into the United Nations are also motivated by their aim to keep the division and create an international climate for reunification by prevailing over communism by taking advantage of the change in the international balance of forces.

However, the South Korean authorities should keenly realize that the issue of national reunification—a domestic issue of the nation—will not be resolved by any outside function but be solved only by the independent might of our people.

The South Korean authorities' sycophantic scheme to formulize two Koreas internationally and internationalize the internal affairs of the nation through unilateral entry into the United Nations and reunify the country by prevailing over communism with the backing of outside forces, not believing in the nation's own strength but turning their backs on their fellow countrymen, is bound to end in failure.

The Korean war in the fifties and history thereafter have already clearly proved that the reunification by prevailing over communism, whether through the method of war or a peaceful manner, is wild fantasy, and gave a stern painful lesson to its advocators.

It is a deplorable anachronism that they chant again the old slogans of anti-communism and predominance over communism which suffered a setback 40-odd years ago.

Their argument about the end of the cold war, end of the ideological era and change of the era is the height of self-deception.

In order for one to correctly resolve the issue of national reunification, one should stand in the pure, national position, transcending the differences in ideologies and systems.

The South Korean authorities must give up the sinister and foolish attempt to realize their ambition for reunification by prevailing over communism and reunification by absorption motivated by their wrong view that reunification is a matter of confrontation between ideologies and systems and a matter of one side conquering the other. They must take the road of a fair reunification through confederation to build a unified state in which the North and the South would have equal authorities and duties on the basis of recognizing the ideology and system of each other.

The South Korean authorities must give up their chronic idea of flunkeyism and dependence on outside force and look straight at the internal forces of reunification that are stoutly growing in the North and the South, instead of living under the patronage of others without their own idea.

We consider that the South Korean authorities must immediately discard the drive for unilateral UN membership from a national stand and accept our reunification-oriented proposal to join the UN as one member.

Endlessly maintaining the nation's division while dreaming of reunification by prevailing over communism and opening the road for interference and aggression by outside force are a grave antinational crime of adding the misfortunes and sufferings of fellow countrymen and of endangering the future of the people.

Such a crime cannot be tolerated by the North which takes independence as the basis of its national policy, nor can it be pardoned by the South Korean people who are struggling for independence, democracy and reunification.

If the South Korean authorities unilaterally enter the United Nations at last in defiance of our repeated proposals and warnings, they will be held totally responsible for the lasting division of the nation,for all pains and calamities the people will suffer therefrom, and for the misfortunes of the next generations.

How the issue of the UN membership should be resolved today is clear to everyone. All political parties, all factions, and the people from all walks of life in South Korea should check and frustrate the South Korean authorities' scheme for unilateral entry into the United Nations and should make every effort to realize the single team, which was already realized in the sports field, even in the arena of the United Nations.

The entry of the North and the South into the United Nations as one member will not only promote reconciliation between the two sides and reunification but also will greatly contribute to the cause of peace in Asia. It will reduce unnecessary burdens of the United Nations and its members caused by the Korean issue.

The United Nations and the governments of all countries should pay due attention to the issue of Korea's entry into the United Nations so that it can be solved in favor of the Korean people's desire for national reunification and world peace.

Unified Table Tennis Team Feted in Niigata

SK1004042691 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 6 Apr 91

[Text] A banquet was hosted on the evening of 5 April by Korean compatriots residing in Niigata Prefecture at the New Otani Nagaoka, the hotel where the teams are staying, to welcome the Korean unified table tennis team.

A large number of Korean compatriots attended the banquet arranged by the joint committee formed by Korean compatriots residing in Niigata Prefecture to welcome the Korean unified table tennis team.

Kang Tong-hun, one of the responsible members of the joint welcome committee and vice chairman of the Niigata Prefectural headquarters of Chongnyon, and Sin Hyong-su, member of the above committee and permanent adviser to the Niigata regional headquarters of the Federation of Korean Residents in Japan [Mindan], spoke at the banquet.

After unanimously saying that they were welcoming the teams as if they were their own blood relatives, the speakers emphatically urged the athletes to demonstrate, without fail, the power and resourcefulness of a unified people before the whole world through the scheduled games.

Following the introduction of a congratulatory telegram from the governor of the Niigata Prefecture, (Seijaburo Hiura), mayor of Nagaoka, spoke at the banquet.

Kim Hyong-chin, head of the team, also spoke at the banquet.

In his speech, he thanked Korean compatriots residing in Japan and the Japanese as well for their wholehearted welcome and then promised that the unified team would live up to the expectation of the broad range of compatriots and Japanese citizens by wonderfully discharging its mission as a unified team, without fail.

The banquet proceeded amid an atmosphere overflowing with fraternal affection.

U.S., South's 7, 8 Apr Air Exercises Reported

*SK1004052791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0438 GMT 10 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 10 (KCNA)—The U.S. Pacific Airforce Command Monday staged joint air and ground strike exercises against the North as part of the "Team Spirit 91" joint military exercises, according to military sources.

This military racket staged in the skies above Wonju, Kongju, Oeyondo, Yongdong and other places of South Korea that day involved formations of Pacific-based fighter-bombers and fighter-bombers and assault planes of the U.S. Airforce present in South Korea and the puppet airforce, more than 190 all told.

In separate action on the same day, the U.S. imperialists brought a KC-135 refuelling tanker to the sky above Mokpo from Guam island to stage a real war exercise for mid-air refuelling of several formations of F-16s of the U.S. Seventh Airforce.

That day the U.S. Pacific Naval Command let several formations of A-6 assault planes fly above Asan Bay from Iwakuni Base in Japan in an air strike exercise against targets in coastal areas of our side.

On April 7 and 8 the U.S. imperialists deployed in Osan and Kunsan airfields several formations of fighter-bombers, refuelling tankers and transport planes such as F-16, KC-135 and C-141 from the U.S. mainland, Guam island and other Pacific bases.

On April 8, the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities staged a ground and naval attack exercise in Kapyong and Uijongbu and on the sea off Kangnung with the mobilisation of huge ground forces and combat ships with the support of dozens of fighter-bombers and observation planes.

Warplanes of various types mobilised in war games in the sky above South Korea on April 8 totalled more than 670.

Team Spirit Said To Have 'Offensive Character'

*SK1004111391 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1022 GMT 10 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 10 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today in a by-lined article says that the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises staged by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities every year is not for "defence" but for offense to make a suprise attack on the northern half of Korea.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities are resorting to a deceptive propaganda that the "Team Spirit" poses no danger, the daily points out, and goes on:

The offensive character of the "Team Spirit" is expressed in applying the principles of "air and ground war" to their military exercises.

The "air and ground war" characterized by long-range operations by coordination from the sky and the ground mainly means that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets start an attack on the northern half of Korea on the Military Demarcation Line and, at the same time, destroy the military objects and major setups in the rear and combine aerial transport and sea-landing operations with it.

As the "air and ground war" has become the main tactics in the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises in South Korea offensive character was brought into relief every year.

Moreover, it can not be overlooked that the "air and ground war" trained by the U.S. imperialists in the "Team Spirit" was applied to the Gulf war.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities should stop talking about "defence" nobody believes and discontinue the nuclear war exercises.

The U.S. imperialists are trying to perfect the "air and ground war" drill during the "Team Spirit" military maneuvers and threaten somebody, but in vain.

Our revolutionary armed forces and the entire people are defending the sky, the ground and the sea of the fatherland so firmly that they can resolutely smash any war provocation moves of the enemy.

If the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities ignite a nuclear war against the North, not giving up their foolish attempt, they will drink a bitter cup.

Chongnyon Group Arrives From Japan for Visit

*SK0704115291 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1027 GMT 7 Apr 91*

[Text] Pyongyang April 7 (KCNA)—A delegation of trades and manufacturers affiliated with the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) with vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon Chon Yon-sik as its head and Vice-Chairman Ho Chong-man as advisor arrived here Saturday to visit the socialist homeland and express thanks on the fifth anniversary of the beginning of joint venture.

It was met at the airport by Yun Ki-pok, Chong Song-nam, Kim Chu-ho and other officials concerned.

Director of the Kuwol Sobang Publishing House Kim Won-taek also came here Saturday on a visit to the socialist homeland.

Accord Signed for Cultural Exchange With Japan

SK1004052291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Tokyo April 8 (KNS-KCNA)—An agreement on cultural exchange between the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Japan-Korea Cultural Interchange Association was signed here today.

It was signed by Chong Chun-ki, chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and Ryoso Hayashi [name as received], chief director of the Japan-Korea Cultural Interchange Association.

The agreement says that to multilaterally develop cultural exchange between the peoples of the two countries in the present period when the joint declaration of three parties was made public and inter-governmental talks for the normalisation of relations between the DPRK and Japan are currently under way fully accords with the desire and interests of the two peoples who hope that the two countries will be close and intimate countries.

According to the agreement, the two sides will make efforts for wide-range exchange and cooperation in science, culture, education, health service, sports and other domains in the interests of the two peoples and strive to realise exchange of visits between figures of various strata including officials of the above-mentioned domains.

The two sides, it notes, will organise cultural, friendship and solidarity functions on many occasions and make efforts to invite delegations to them and jointly organise seminars in different domains on matters of concern for the two peoples and meetings.

The agreement further notes that the two sides will frequently inform each other of the matters concerning cultural exchange between the DPRK and Japan and discuss matters with each other, if necessary.

The two sides expressed their determination to make every effort for broad-range cultural exchange between the DPRK and Japan in the future.

Kim Il-song's Works Volume 37 Published

SK0704103791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0956 GMT 7 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 7 (KCNA)—The Workers' Party of Korea Publishing House brought out "Kim Il-song's Works Vol. 37.

This volume contains 34 classial works including speeches and talks published by the great leader President Kim Il-song in the period from January 1982 to May 1983. It gives a comprehensive consummation of President Kim Il-song's outstanding ideas, theories and strategic and tactical policies for accelerating the building of socialism and communism and waging a powerful struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and global independence under the banner of the chuche idea and of the successes and experiences attained in the struggle for their realization.

National Symposium on 'Kim Il-song's Greatness'

SK0904154391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1502 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang, April 9 (KCNA)—A national symposium on the respected leader President Kim Il-song's greatness and imperishable exploits was held today at the Grand People's Study House.

Present at the symposium were Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C.[Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-president; Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the C.C., the WPK; and other officials.

At the symposium, speeches were made on subjects including "the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a great leader who has built the powerful driving force of our revolution by welding the party and the people into a socio-political organism," "the building of man-first socialism by the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a great exploit in making immortal contributions to mankind's cause of independence" and "the proposal for reunifying the country by means of confederation based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments put forward by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a great principle of the method of national reunification conforming to the present conditions of our country."

The speakers pointed out that President Kim Il-song founded the immortal chuche idea with his brilliant wisdom and performed imperishable exploits by victoriously leading the Korean revolution, accomplishing the historic cause of national liberation and building the DPRK into a powerful socialist state, independent, self-sufficient and self-reliant in defence.

They added that one of the great exploits performed by President Kim Il-song is that he has formed a strong driving force of our revolution by welding the party and the people into a single-hearted socio-political organism.

They explained that his proposal for reunifying the country by means of confederation based on one nation, one state, two systems and two governments is a great principle of the reunification method conforming to the present conditions of Korea.

They stressed that the Korean people vigorously advancing along the road of Korean-style socialism is the embodiment of the immortal chuche idea with fervent loyalty to the great leader President Kim Il-song and is the wise guidance that the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il will certainly reunify the country and brilliantly accomplish the cause of the independence of the working masses.

Officials Lay Wreaths at Martyrs Cemetery

SK0604123691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1027 GMT 6 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 6 (KCNA)—Party and Government cadres, working people and People's Army soldiers laid wreaths at the Mt. Taesong Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery and the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery today, the 105th day after the winter solstice.

Wreaths sent by the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were laid on the wreath-laying stands of the cemeteries. Guards of honor of the Korean People's Army were standing at the cemeteries.

O Chin-u, Kye Ung-tae, Choe Kwang and other party and government cadres were present at the functions.

Wreaths were laid in the name of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee and the Administration Council (AC) of the DPRK and commissions and ministries of the AC and other organs and organizations.

The participants observed a moment's silence in memory of the anti-Japanese revolutionary martyrs and the patriotic martyrs.

Choe Tae-pok Attends International Exhibition

SK0904055991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0431 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 9 (KCNA)—The second Pyongyang exhibition of international youth inventions and new technologies opened at the Central Youth Hall Monday.

On display there are more than 1,600 exhibits of inventions and new technologies of some 410 kinds in electronics and automation, heat engineering, machine-building and biological domains which were developed by young people of the Soviet Union, Mongolia, Vietnam, Afghanistan, Bulgaria and the DPRK, and photographs and books.

Participating in its opening ceremony were Choe Tae-pok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, other officials concerned, a delegation of the Lenin Young Communist League of the Soviet Union and embassy officials of different countries in Pyongyang.

Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, stressed in his opening address that the young people of various countries should make an active contribution to accomplishing the cause of durable peace in the world by swapping and learning through the Pyongyang exhibition from the scientific and technological results and experiences gained in their tireless thinking, quest and active struggle and thereby elevating the scientific and technological level of the countries and promoting friendship and cooperation.

The head of the delegation of the Lenin Young Communist League of the Soviet Union, spoke next.

He hoped that the exhibition would contribute to developing the inventions and technical contrivance of the youth of different countries and raising their cultural and technical standards.

At tne end of the opening ceremony the attendants went round the exhibition hall.

Dailies Mark Anniversary of Choson University

SK1004053291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0449 GMT 10 Apr 91

["35th Founding Anniversary of Choson University"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang April 10 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate signed articles to the 35th anniversary of the founding of Choson University under the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon).

Pointing out that with the founding of Choson University on April 10, 1956, Chongnyon has been able to train new-type native cadres boundlessly loyal to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song under the regular democratic national educational system ranging from primary schools to a university and the cherished desire of the Korean residents in Japan for the education of their children has been realised, NODONG SINMUN says:

In the past, Choson University has consolidated its ranks in keeping with the Work of modelling Chongnyon on the chuche idea while arming teachers firmly with the great chuche idea and preparing all of them to be ardent patriots and genuine educators. It brought up students into dependable successors to the cause of chuche and competent workers for the cause of national reunification and the socialist construction by establishing chuche in teaching and education and in scientific research and thoroughly applying the principle of the socialist pedagogy.

Today the university has been strengthened and developed into a training centre of native cadres who will take over the movement of Koreans in Japan and into a powerful chuche scientific seat of Chongnyon equipped with all up-to-date educational facilities.

The author of a MINJU CHOSON article says that Choson University, a seat of democratic national education of Koreans in Japan, has successfully discharged its honorable mission and duty to educate students who will reliably carry forward the patriotic work of Chongnyon.

Pyongyang Streetcar Project Progress 'Fast'

SK0804110091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 8 Apr 91

[Text] Pyongyang April 8 (KCNA)—The first-stage street car project which is of great importance in traffic service in the capital city of Pyongyang is progressing at the final stage.

Most difficult and troublesome projects in the 20 odd km long tramway construction from Songsn in Mangyongdae to Songsin have been completed in the main.

The laying of concrete plate sleepers, the electric cable pit project, the groundwork of electric poles and the construction of the street car washing station have been completed and the laying of rails and the construction of traction substations are near completion.

The assembling of equipment at substations, erection of electric poles, laying of electric cables and building on garages for readjustment, compound routes and water-supplying stations and other projects are progressing at a fast rate.

'Highly Upholding' of Party, Leader Urged

SK1004025091 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0000 GMT 5 Apr 91

[NODONG SINMUN 5 April special article: "Highly Upholding the Party and the Leader With Faith and Sense of Obligation Is Our People's Lofty Ethos"]

[Text] Today our people struggle by cherishing a lofty pride as the people carrying out the revolution.

The Korean communist revolutionaries vigorously traversed along the path of a long and arduous revolution since they highly uphold up to the present the respected Comrade Kim Il-song as leader. Although there were a number of trials and difficulties, our revolution consistently advanced along the single road of victory under the leadership of the party and of the leader.

On this road, the chuche revolutionary cause, which was pioneered by "Down With Imperialism," has been brilliantly inherited and is being accomplished.

On the road of carrying out the revolution by following the party and the leader [suryong], the Korean communist revolutionaries have gone through and experienced everything they had to go through and experience as men and as revolutionaries.

On this sacred road of struggle, the Korean communist revolutionaries realized a precious revolutionary truth: the indomitability and continuity of the revolutionary cause depends on the invariability of revolutionary faith and a sense of obligation.

It is a great pride of chuche-type communist revolutionaries to carry out the revolution to the end by deeply cherishing faith and a sense of obligation to the leader of the revolution which were formed at the dawn of the Korean revolution and which have been constantly consolidated and developed.

1. Faith and a sense of obligation are unique ideological and mental characteristics of the chuche-type Korean revolutionaries who struggled by upholding the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: It is a noble ethos of communists to defend their faith and to fight for this faith without yielding to anything.

For those who are carrying out the revolution, what is more precious than life are faith and a sense of obligation. If a man wants to live life worthy of a man, he should have faith and a sense of obligation. Only when a man has strong faith and a sense of obligation can he put his aims and resolutions into practice and fulfill his duty as a man.

Men are called the most dignified and precious existence in the world not because they have intelligence, but because they have faith and a sense of obligation. Without faith and a sense of obligation, men will become worthless. Therefore, those who adhered to their faith and cherished a sense of obligation have been praised by history.

The faith and sense of obligation cherished by communist revolutionaries are the revolutionary faith and sense of obligation which were raised onto the highest. Such faith and sense of obligation are, in essence, faith and a sense of obligation toward the leader [suryong] and take the revolutionary outlook on the leader as their basic core factor.

Communist revolutionaries are fighters for the leader. The revolutionaries are the voluntary fighters who embarked on the road of struggle to carry out the revolution by highly upholding the leadership of the leader.

For the revolutionaries, the leader is the center of life of a social and political group. Unless they unite themselves with the leader as one, they cannot carry out the revolutionary struggle nor fulfill their mission and duties as revolutionaries. Thus, the revolutionaries have faith that only when they highly uphold the leader can they have an everlasting social and political life.

The revolutionary faith of communist revolutionaries means faith in the greatness of the leader. This faith is a single-hearted loyalty and an unwavering pledge made on the path indicated by the leader, is the firm will to carry out the revolution to the end under any arduous condition, and is integrity which does not change under any storm.

Communist revolutionaries have been grown in the bosom of the leader. Without exception, the revolutionaries came to learn about the precious truth of the revolution and to possess the political life being embraced in the bosom of the leader. Thus, they were fostered to be genuine communist revolutionaries. For the revolutionaries, the leader is the great father who fosters them, is the teacher and the benefactor for political life.

The revolutionaries can live being away from their parents but cannot live even a moment being away from the bosom of the leader [suryong]. Thus, the revolutionaries came to have a revolutionary sense of obligation to repay the benevolence of the leader.

The sense of obligation of the communist revolutionaries means the sense of obligation toward the leader. This is a noble revolutionary conscience forged between the leader and fighters, based on love and loyalty.

The communist revolutionaries should have both revolutionary faith and a revolutionary sense of obligation. When faith is linked with a sense of obligation, it can be a most solid and truthful faith; when the sense of obligation is based on faith, it can be the purest and warmest one.

Faith and a sense of obligation are the lifeline of the communist revolutionaries. The boundless loyalty to the leader, which is a unique ideological and mental characteristic of the revolutionaries, is to be formed and demonstrated on the basis of faith and a sense of obligation. The lofty revolutionary spirit, strong will, and firm integrity are to be formed on the basis of faith and a sense of obligation.

Only when revolutionaries have the revolutionary faith and a sense of obligation can they precisely establish the revolutionary outlook of the leader and the outlook on life, can correctly forge revolutionary comradeship, and can attain firm revolutionary unity.

This is a precious truth proven by the history of our revolution which advanced by overcoming long arduous trials.

The faith and sense of obligation of the chuche-type Korean revolutionaries were formed from the time they highly upheld the respected Comrade Kim Il-song as the leader and have been firmly cherished by them.

The respected Comrade Kim Il-song created the immortal chuche idea and is pioneering the new road for the Korean revolution to advance. He expounded a great epic on comradeship, stressing "Let us not forget the pledge made before the revolution!" and "You are Kim Hyok and I am [word indistinct]." He is a great leader, a great man, and a great comrade.

Thus, the Korean communist revolutionaries made a firm pledge to carry out the revolution to the end by following the leader, being fascinated by the greatness and temperament of the respected Comrade Kim Il-song.

The naming of Comrade Kim Il-song as Comrade Hanbyol [great star], resulting from desire to uphold our leader as the new star and sun that will lead Korea, reflects the faith and sense of obligation of the chuche-type revolutionaries who wanted to follow the leader to the end of the world. The "Song of Korea's Star," which sings that "our 20 million fellow countrymen now see the new great star," is vibrant with faith and a sense of obligation of the young communists, including Kim Hyok and Cha Kwang-su.

Thus, faith and a sense of obligation of the young communists were formed on the basis of the greatness of the leader and have been tenaciously cherished by the revolutionaries as their lifeline.

The entire course of Korea's history, filled with arduousness and trials, is the history in which such faith and sense of obligation took firm root in the hearts of the chuche-type revolutionaries and has been firmly inherited like a bamboo stem.

Many things about faith and a sense of obligation of the revolutionaries have been recorded in history. However, there were no such revolutionaries as the Korean communists who carried out the revolution to the end by cherishing faith and a sense of obligation to the leader as their lifeline from the time when the revolution was pioneered to the present. This is the great pride of the Korean communists.

The faith and sense of obligation of chuche-type revolutionaries are, above all, clean, spotless purity. Faith and sense of obligation are based on the high degree of self-consciousness and awareness. Therefore, they take the purity as their basis.

The revolutionaries should cherish only one faith and one sense of obligation to trust and follow only their leader and their party. The chuche-type Korean revolutionaries firmly maintained the position that they only know the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song and fought by totally entrusting the leader with their destinies. Their position was based on the firm belief that their everlasting happiness and future of the fatherland and the people lie on the path of upholding the respected leader.

Therefore, the faith and sense of obligation of chuche-type revolutionaries were most clean and truthful. The revolutionaries also had an ideological sentiment to think and advance only according to the leader's intention without wavering and fickleness [pyonsim] under any trial.

The hearts of the Korean revolutionaries who upheld the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song were always vibrant with one breath. They dedicated their youth and lives to defending and protecting the general.

They advanced to the site of a decisive battle by singing the song of loyalty, "May Our General be Well!" wherever they fought and traversed along the road. They did so if it was indicated by the leader, by crossing rugged mountains and deep rivers without any complaint. This was a pure faith and sense of obligation of the Korean revolutionaries.

Indeed, there were no such revolutionaries as the Korean communists who were pure and simple and honest over the issue of faith.

It is the idea of chuche-type revolutionaries that although flexibility may take place in the work and life of a man, the issue of faith and sense of obligation should, by no means, be underestimated.

Although they could survive only if they put a bogus seal in the statement of convert after being arrested by the enemy, the Korean revolutionaries voluntarily walked to the execution ground instead of seeking survival. They did so because they believed that faith and a sense of obligation, dignity and honor of revolutionaries were more precious than their lives.

That faith and sense of obligation are stained with spots even to the slightest degree means the end of the life as a revolutionary. If faith and a sense of obligation cherished by revolutionaries waver, the revolution itself will waver and suffer vicissitudes. Because they personally experienced this, the chuche-type revolutionaries fought to safeguard the purity of their faith and a sense of obligation even at the risk of their lives.

The faith and sense of obligation of chuche-type revolutionaries are rock-firm ones which will never change under any adverse situation.

The arduousness and complexity of revolutionary struggle will test the faith and sense of obligation of each individual revolutionary. Revolutionaries should keep the faith and a sense of obligation to the end under any adverse situation once they are resolved.

The one who keeps faith of loyalty and sense of obligation will be a loyalist [chungsin] and the one who discards them will be a degenerate.

The chuche-type Korean revolutionaries are the indomitable fighters who firmly kept the faith and a sense of obligation under any difficult circumstances. The men who were loyal to the revolutionary sense of obligation with one faith on the path of loyalty of following the leader, who never knew even a single time of wavering and fickleness for faith and a sense of obligation, and who may die but never discard such faith and sense of obligation are the very chuche-type revolutionaries.

In fact, there has never been a revolution as arduous and complex as the Korean revolution, and there have never been such revolutionaries as the Korean revolutionaries, who waged a bloody struggle by breaking through trials at every step.

There were trials on the road of revolution, but the arduousness of the struggle further strengthened the faith and sense of obligation of the chuche-type revolutionaries. There were the revolutionaries who did not bend their revolutionary fidelity when imprisoned while following this road, and who had to walk toward a torture rack with iron nails. There was an indomitable fighter who shouted that he saw the victory of the revolution even when he lost his eyes because of the enemy. There was a fighter who defended the secret of the revolution at the cost of his life by cutting off his tongue at the torture site. Because their conviction was so strong, the Japanese imperialists committed atrocities such as cutting out their hearts since they were curious to know what the communists' hearts were like, being frightened at the stubbornness of the communists.

The chuche-type revolutionaries of Korea valued the faith and sense of obligation more than their own lives and adhered to them to the end because they had the true revolutionary outlook on life—that is, they can have true life by adhering to the faith in, and the sense of obligation to, the leader. Longevity does not mean good life, but adhering to the faith and sense of obligation brings a life befitting man. The revolutionary can add luster to the honor and dignity of the revolutionary, and can give his offspring everlasting life, when he adheres to his political faith and sense of obligation at the risk of his life.

While on the road of carrying on the revolution and while upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the Korean revolutionaries came to have true human dignity and the revolutionary's proud self-respect. Because they learned what it is like to be in the respected and beloved leader's bosom, and to live like a man and a revolutionary, the chuche-type revolutionaries never abandoned this faith and sense of obligation.

Truly, the chuche-type revolutionaries had the phoenix-like faith and sense of obligation that enabled them not to be perturbed in the face of tempestuous trials and to survive even in the fire. This faith and sense of obligation was so resolute, pure, and strong that they deserved to take great pride in them and boast them to the world. All the victories we have attained in our revolution and in our construction under the leadership of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song were the victories of the chuche-type communist revolutionaries, and they were the great victories of their faith and sense of obligation.

The chuche-type revolutionaries who were educated and brought up by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song clearly showed, through their noble sacrifice and bloody struggle, what kind of faith and sense of obligation the revolutionaries should have. Because of this, the chuche-type revolutionary has the high dignity and honor of being the truest revolutionary of all revolutionaries and the truest human being of all human beings.

2. Faith and a sense of obligation are the noble ideological and spiritual ethos of our people with which they will complete the Korean revolution to the end, upholding the great leader [widaehan suryong] and the great leader [widaehan yongdoja].

Dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has noted: Our people are foreseeing their bright future in the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and have faith in sure victory that they can complete the chuche revolutionary cause without fail as long as they have the party's leadership.

The revolution has the characteristic of inheritance. The inheritance of the revolutionary cause is the inheritance of ideology and leadership as well as the inheritance of faith and a sense of obligation. When we uphold the party and the leader consistently, as we did in the past, the lineage of the revolution is purely inherited and completed.

In the period of inheriting and completing the struggle, as well as in the period of pioneering the revolutionary struggle, the leader [suryong] and the leader [yongdoja] of the revolution are absolute. It is the leader [yongdoja], as the brain of ideology and theory, that sets forth the future of the times and of the revolution to the popular masses; it is the leader [yongdoja] that gives them noble political life and leads, them warmly holding their hands. It is the greatness of the leader [yongdoja] of the revolution that the revolutionary fighters come to be aware of as the revolution and construction deepens and develops. It is the leader's love and trust that they cherish more warmly with the passage of time. Therefore, the revolutionaries endlessly trust the leader of the revolution and more firmly pledge themselves to carry out the revolution to the end while following the leader. When the leader of the revolution stands firmly at the head of the party and the revolution, and when the revolutionaries and the people struggle while firmly cherishing the faith in and sense of obligation to the leader, the revolutionary cause advances and overcomes any trials. This is the inevitability of the inheritance of the revolutionary cause.

In our country today, the chuche revolutionary cause, which was pioneered by the Down-With-Imperialism Union [DIU], is being brilliantly inherited and completed. The red banner of the revolution which our party and people hold aloft was the banner which the DIU held up, and the struggle slogan we hold up is the slogan to uphold the party and the leader with loyalty and filial piety following the example of the revolutionary spirit of Kim Hyok and Cha Kwang-su who upheld the great Comrade Hanbyol.

The song "Let us follow the leader thousands of ris, let us follow the party thousands of ris," which are widely sung by our people at present, is a song of loyalty containing our people's aspiration and volition. This clearly shows how firmly inherited and how firm are the faith and the sense of obligation of the Korean chuche-type revolutionaries determined to complete the chuche revolutionary cause to the end upholding the great leader and under the leadership of our party.

Our faith and sense of obligation is, above all, the wholehearted loyalty to share the will and fate of the great leader [yongdoja]. The career of the revolutionary is the wholehearted loyalty. The life of the revolutionary is to devote all his wisdom and energy to the struggle for the leader when he lives and to devote every drop of his blood to the leader's cause when he dies. This makes the life of the revolutionary a noble one. Every man can determine and pledge to follow the road of loyalty to the party and the leader, but everyone does not follow the road of the revolution. The revolution is arduous, and there can be difficult trials and vicissitudes on its way. Here faith and sense of obligation are the only things the revolutionary can rely on. Only when these are solidified into the wholehearted loyalty to the leader can they become the firmest ones.

Today, the Korean chuche-type revolutionaries and people who carry on the revolution upholding the great leader [suryong], the great leader [yongdoja] all live and struggle with the wholehearted loyalty. As the party members of the Second Cell, Fifth Bureau of KCNA and the poets of the Korean Literary Writers' Association pledged with all their hearts in their letter to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, our people have the wholehearted loyalty to live rewarding lives as the loyal subjects and filial sons upholding the great leader. Because of this, the ideological and spiritual world of our chuche-type revolutionaries is so noble and their faith and sense of obligation are unalterable.

Our people's wholehearted loyalty is the faith in the sure victory for the revolutionary cause set forth by the leader of the revolution, the revolutionary integrity with which they share life, death, and fate with the leader under any circumstances, and the noble sense of obligation with which they repay with loyalty to the leader's trust and love. Because they cherish this faith, integrity, and sense of obligation deep in their hearts, our people are so firm and thorough in upholding their leader. Many young men heroically dash to the difficult spot when the party calls upon them to come, and demonstrate the noble loyalty of devoting all their wisdom and energy to implement the party's idea as the family of 14 tractor drivers of Yongnyon did. This is the noble ideological and spiritual ethos that can be demonstrated among our people who carry on the revolution upholding the great leader.

There can be difficult trials on the way for our chuche-type revolutionaries. However, no difficulty can curb the faith and sense of obligation of the chuche-type revolutionaries who are determined to be loyal wholeheartedly to the party and the leader.

Our faith and sense of obligation are the wholehearted unity with which we firmly rally around the great leader. Unity is life and the source of the indestructible might. Furthermore, unity determines the success and failure of the revolutionary cause at the stage of its inheritance and completion. With unity, the revolutionary cause is brilliantly inherited and completed overcoming all trials; without it, the revolutionary cause experiences vicissitudes and deviation. This is the lesson of history. Therefore, true communist revolutionaries value unity like the pupils of their eyes and struggle to the end to protect it.

The purity of unity is not protected by itself. Unity is essentially the unity formed with the leader [yongdoja] as the center; that is to say, the unity which is formed based on the faith and sense of obligation forged between the leader and warriors. When those who share the fate and will with the leader of the revolution are firmly united in terms of ideological will, morality, and a sense of obligation, the most solid unity, single-hearted unity, is formed and firmly deepened. The history of the communist movement shows that there exists only the unity which is formed with the leader as the center and that when the faith and sense of obligation to uphold the leader is lacking, genuine unity cannot be achieved even though an organization is formed.

The unity which is formed by momentary common interests or by pragmatism, not by faith and sense of obligation, is like a house built on sand. That our unity which is formed with the great leader [widaehan suryong] as the center has become such a pure and solid one is because it is based on faith and a sense of obligation. Our unity is the unity of ideological will and moral obligation, the foundation of which is a revolutionary sense of obligation and warm comraderie.

For our chuche-type revolutionaries, the leader's ideology and will are the only standard for their thought and conduct. It is a lofty characteristic of our people to think and act according to the leader's ideology and will, and to find the value of their lives by sharing their fate with the leader. Because of this, the only one ideology, the chuche idea, has prevailed in our party and the ranks of the revolution and our unity have become the unity of the ideological will of the chuche-type revolutionaries who take the chuche idea, the leader's ideology, as their world view.

The strong discipline and revolutionary ethos—in which the entire party moves as one, the important principled problems arising in party work and party activity are reported and solved in a timely manner, and the party's decision and instruction are unconditionally accepted and implemented—have been established in our party. We cannot say that this is thanks merely to the principle of democratic centralism. The revolutionary discipline, in which the entire party and the whole society move according to one ideology and one leadership, rests on the lofty consciousness and voluntariness of upholding the party and the leader. The entire party and the whole society have formed one sociopolitical organism with the leader of the revolution as the center, and they unanimously move as one because leaders who have firm faith and a sense of obligation are upholding the party and the leader.

We can say with certainty that today we have achieved the most solid and viable unity and cohesion which cannot be broken off by anything, and which can surmount any difficulties. Such unity and cohesion have not been achieved all by themselves. Because of the peculiar nature of the development of the communist movement of our country in the past, anti-party elements such as factionalism, flunkeyism, and dogmatism, hid in our party at one time and hindered the party's unity. It was totally because of the resolute struggle of those genuine revlutionaries with firm faith and a sense of obligation that we could sweep away the filth of factionalism handed down historically and, thus, could firmly realize the party's unity and cohesion. No alien ideological elements can invade the revolutionary ranks united with faith and a sense of obligation, nor can any factionalist acts work out.

Experience shows that when one has firm faith in and a sense of obligation toward the leader one can sternly smash any maneuvers of the enemies and, thus, thoroughly protect the purity of unity and cohesion. Our unity and cohesion can be strengthened and developed eternally, not only today, but also in the future, with invincible vitality, because it has been formed on faith and a sense of obligation. Today, we can proudly say that we are genuine chuche- type revolutionaries with revolutionary faith and a sense of obligation. The errand boys of imperialism and the enemies of the revolution have viciously slandered and vilified the communist revolutionaries who have faith and a sense of obligation, saying that they are those who lack sympathetic feelings, and who are indifferent to the sufferings of other people.

However, reality is completely different from this. In the bourgeois society, the number of mentally and morally depraved human cripples is on the increase. The phenomenon in the bourgeois society in which people apply the law of the jungle to people cannot be defended in any way. The acts of those mentally and morally depraved people in the society cannot be justified. The only way to live a life worthy of human beings and revolutionaries, keeping the dignity and honor of human beings, is to keep the faith and a sense of obligation.

Our chuche-type revolutionaries came to cherish faith and a sense of obligation and have embodied them. Thus, they are living a genuine life worthy of men with dignity, firm integrity, and warm affection for mankind, and are overflowing with revolutionary optimism and songs.

In our society, the people are carrying out the struggle by helping and leading each other based on the principle, "One for all, all for one." Our society is filled with the fine custom of collectivism and comradeship.

Hero Kim Kwang-chol rescued the lives of his comrades by covering an exploding hand-grenade with his own body, and the entire group willingly shared everything to save the life of this man. Can one think of such a fine custom in capitalist society?

We take great pride in lofty ideology, the spirit of faith, and the sense of obligation which we cherish deep in our hearts as revolutionaries and as men. We are resolved to further consolidate such faith and sense of obligation.

3. It is a firm pledge of the chuche-type Korean revolutionaries to fight and advance by upholding the leader of the revolution with faith and a sense of obligation.

Dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: We should brilliantly accomplish the socialist and communist cause—the chuche revolutionary cause—by fighting constantly and not yielding to anything along the revolutionary path which started from the sacred Paektu Mountain.

Once made, a revolutionary should keep his pledge to the end. Keeping the pledge means defending the faith and fulfilling the sense of obligation.

The life of a revolutionary begins with the pledge and is the course of constant struggle to keep this pledge to the end. It is also the course of revolutionary mental training.

The pledge of a revolutionary is the pledge of loyalty to the great leader, and is a firm decision not to give up his faith and sense of obligation no matter what wind may blow. For this, the pledge of a revolutionary is the source of strength making him fight loyally throughout his life, and is a mirror of conscience.

The chuche-type Korean revolutionaries traversed a long path of revolution by upholding the great leader [suryong] and the great leader [yongdoja], and by sharing their intentions.

Our revolutionary patriots in the early days tenaciously struggled by deeply cherishing the Yalu River pledge of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song that he will never return if independence for Korea is not achieved. Thus, they realized the liberation of the fatherland and built a powerful socialist nation with independence, self-reliance, and self-defence.

In this course, faith and a sense of obligation of the Korean communists who were faithful to the great historic pledge were fully demonstrated.

Experiences of our revolution show that when the goal which a revolutionary puts forward is great and his pledge is firm, he will have strong faith and a sense of obligation as well as fine mental and moral traits. A man with a small goal cannot be strong, and a revolutionary whose aspiration is not lofty cannot be sacred.

Today our chuche-type revolutionaries cherish deep in their hearts profound ideals, ambitions, and lofy aspirations. Today's faith and sense of obligation should be highly displayed in keeping the pledge of history to glorify Korea by upholding the great leader [yondoja] and in implementing such a pledge.

In order for one to tenaciously fight by following the leadership of the party and the leader, and by firmly cherishing faith and a sense of obligation, one should firmly establish a revolutionary outlook toward the leader.

History shows that those revolutionaries with a thoroughgoing outlook towards the leader were endlessly loyal to the leader and his cause, and firmly defended faith and a sense of obligation.

The revolutionary outlook towards the leader is the most correct view and standpoint for the position and role of the leader [suryong] in the revolutionary struggle of the working class, and is an attitude and position to sincerely uphold the leader [suryong].

Only when one establishes a thoroughgoing revolutionary outlook toward the leader can absoluteness toward the greatness of the leader be formed, and can faith and a sense of obligation be consolidated. The basis for establishing the revolutionary outlook toward the leader is to deeply realize the greatness of the leader.

While carrying out the revolution by upholding the respected Comrade Kim Il-song as the leader, from the days when the revolution was pioneered to the present, the chuche-type Korean revolutionaries keenly realized how great our leader was, and how wise was the leadership of our party which brilliantly inherited his cause.

Because there is the great leader [yongdoja], the life and glory of chuche-type revolutionaries can be existent and the revolutionary faith and sense of obligation can be formed.

We should more deeply realize the greatness of the leader [yongdoja] through the practical struggle to brilliantly achieve the ideas and intentions of the party and the leader [suryong]. Thus, we should establish a firm revolutionary outlook toward the leader [suryong].

Faith and a sense of obligation cherished by the anti-Japanese revolutionary patriots are the lofty example from which today's chuche-type communist revolutionaries should follow and learn. That the faith and sense of obligation of the anti-Japanese revolutionary patriots became a lofty ideological and mental world was highly displayed by upholding the leader in the course of the struggle at the dawn of our own revolution. They fought by defending their faith and sense of obligation to the end, even under the most arduous circumstance.

The anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters could become revolutionaries with indomitable revolutionary spirit, not because they had deep knowledge and rich experience, but because they became genuine revolutionaries by consolidating the revolutionary faith and sense of obligation amid the arduous struggle to defend the great general—the destiny of the Korean revolution—and by fulfilling the revolutionary missions assigned to them by overcoming various arduous trials.

The course of life of anti-Japanese revolutionary patriots taught a precious truth to us: that we should carry out the revolution not merely by knowledge and career but by faith and a sense of obligation, and that when one defends faith and a sense of obligation to the end, one can have an everlasting political life.

In order for one to have ardent loyalty to the party and to the leader, one should constantly revolutionize oneself. As the revolution advances, its circumstances and conditions will change. However, no matter how the circumstances may change, faith of the people who are carrying out the revolution should not change.

In order for one to keep faith and a sense of obligation to both the party and the leader, without degeneration under any circumstance and at any time, one should constantly discipline and cultivate oneself in a revolutionary manner.

The flowing water will not go bad. Revolutionaries can glorify their everlasting political life only when they constantly revolutionize themselves until the moment their hearts stop.

For revolutionaries, a single day during which they lived with a burning heart of loyalty to the party and to the leader is more precious and valuable than 100 days, or a 1,000 days, during which they spent time without any objective.

As taught by dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, the life of a revolutionary begins with struggle and ends with struggle. There is a life within the struggle of a revolutionary, and there is a struggle within his life.

A revolutionary develops and grows in the course of constant and repeated struggle; faith and a sense of obligation become firm and strong in the course of struggle and life.

We are carrying out the revolution in this most glorious era led by the great leader [yongdoja]. Today the party's plans and intentions are being fully realized. Today's practice of revolution enables everyone to deeply understand the greatness of the leader and to firmly cherish faith and a sense of obligation.

All party members and workers should thoroughly implement the party's line and policy by going into the site of socialist construction, which is seething with creation and innovations. Through such a course, they should constantly train themselves ideologically.

The remark that there is no perfect revolutionary does not mean the endless height which ordinary people cannot reach. This remark refers to the lofty demand and modest trait of the chuche-type revolutionary who never finds satisfaction in his mental and moral training.

Faith and a sense of obligation can be cherished only by genuine revolutionaries who always strive to train and develop themselves with a clean conscience to render loyalty to the party and to the leader.

Today our chuche-type revolutionaries are full of conviction in the indomitability and victory of their cause. When the leader and fighters unite their strength and hearts, they can even conquer the heavens. We have a large unit of chuche-type revolutionaries who share the intentions and destiny with the great leader [yongdoja]. This is the most precious asset of all of our assets, the most powerful strength among all strengths.

No one and no strength can block the advance of the chuche-type communist revolutionaries who fight in firm unity with the party and the leader, with faith and a sense of obligation.

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who led the revolution and construction from the time when our revolution was pioneered to the present, firmly stands at the van of Korean revolution and is wisely leading our party's chuche cause. All people are upholding the party and the leader with faith and a sense of obligation. Thus, our revolutionary cause will advance only along the single road of victory and glory.

KCNA Review of 10 Apr Pyongyang Press

SK1004114191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0957 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang April 11 (KCNA)—Papers here today report that the great leader President Kim Il-song was awarded the medal of Alcacer do Sal City, Portugal.

A national symposium on the President Kim Il-song's greatness and imperishable exploits was held in Pyongyang on the occasion of April 15, says the press.

Under the title "Revolutionary History of President Kim Il-song Is History of Glory Shining With Creation and Construction" MINJU CHOSON rounds up voices of the world public. NODONG SINMUN says that Juliao Mateus Paulo [as received], member and executive secretary of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Workers' Party, expressed respect and reverence for President Kim Il-song in an interview in Pyongyang.

Printed in the paper is a poem titled "Congratulations to Comrade Kim Il-song" by Elmi-nur Abdi Mohamed, a Somali citizen.

NODONG SINMUN deals with President Kim Il-song's wise guidance in strengthening the basic organisations of the party and effecting a new turn in the party life of its members and MINJU CHOSON the boundless, fatherly love of President Kim Il-song who called at the house of a worker and took care of his life.

South Korean people are deeply revering the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, says NODONG SINMUN.

The paper runs an article dealing with how Comrade Kim Chong-il led officials to give full play to the might of the Taean work system.

The paper editorially calls for staunchly fighting with confidence in the invincibility of socialism of our own style.

Given in the press is news that a ten-day film show began and a national photo exhibition opened in celebration of the April 15 holiday.

Papers inform the readers of the commissioning of the Chonghwa smeltery of the Tongchang mine in North Pyongan Province.

Edited in the press is photo-accompanied news that the Ninth April Spring Friendship Art Festival is on before full houses.

NODONG SINMUN introduces the travelogue on Korea "Korean People Making Independence Shine" by Masaru Yamauchi [name as received], secretary general of the Tokyo, Japan, liaison council for the study of the chuche idea.

Given in the press are an account of an interview with home and foreign reporters in Pyongyang, by Kim Hui-won, former chairman of the South Korean Kangwon Provincial District Committee of the "Reunification Democratic Party" and central permanent member of the "Democratic Liberal Party", and a declaration of conscience he made public.

According to the press, an agreement on cultural exchange between the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Japan-Korea Cultural Interchange Association was signed in Tokyo. Takako Doi, chairwoman of the Central Executive Committee of the Japan Social Democratic Party, and Shin Kanemaru, former deputy prime minister, separately met the delegation of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article headlined "'Air and Ground War' and 'Team Spirit'". Echoed in the daily are voices of the world public denouncing the splittist scheme of the South Korean authorities.

The Rwandan paper KINYAMATEKA exposed the irregularities and scandals by the No Tae-u ruling group, says the daily.

South Korean news of the press includes a report that Daewoo auto workers staged an anti-"government" struggle, burning a U.S. flag.

Papers dedicate articles to the 35th anniversary of the founding of Choson University under Chongnyon.

According to the press, Japanese papers reported that apology and compensation for the human losses inflicted upon the Korean people by Japan in the past are being debated by Japanese political circles in connection with the recent discovery of the lists of Korean prisoners who were forcibly taken away during the Second World War.

It is reported in the press that Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, met with Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, president of Cambodia, leading cadres of China participated in the compulsory tree-planting and Li Peng, premier of the State Council of China, pointed to the present international situation, the United Nations Security Council adopted resolutions on the ceasefire of the Gulf war and on the suppression in Iraq and the chief of the general staff of the Soviet Army lashed out at the NATO's stand to strengthen its military structure. NODONG SINMUN reports that the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from the Congo was completed, another group of the Cuban forces in Angola returned to Havana, the Indian prime minister called for self-reliance to solve the economic matters of the country and the Greek prime minister denounced the protectionist policy of the United States.

South Korea

Presidential Spokesman Says Gorbachev To Visit

SK0904125391 Seoul YONHAP in English 1245 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will visit South Korea on April 19, presidential spokesman Yi Su-chong said Tuesday.

Gorbachev will visit South Korea in return for South Korean President No Tae-u's visit to Moscow in December.

The Soviet leader will meet with No and discuss a wide range of issues including political situation in the Korean peninsula and bilateral economic cooperation.

He will arrive in Cheju on his way back from his scheduled visit to Tokyo, Yi said.

Futher on Gorbachev's Visit

SK0904145491 Seoul YONHAP in English 1436 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will have a summit meeting with South Korean President No Tae-u in Cheju on April 19, South Korean presidential spokesman Yi Su-chong announced Tuesday.

Yi said Gorbachev would make a stopover on April 19 on Cheju-do Island, south of the Korean peninsula, on his way back from Japan and stay there for three to four hours to meet with President No.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry conveyed to South Korean Ambassador to Moscow Kong No-myong a message earlier that day to sound out Seoul on Gorbachev's hope to meet with No in Cheju on his way home from Japan.

No, upon being informed of the message, accepted the Soviet leader's offer, Yi said.

Gorbachev is scheduled to visit Japan April 16 through April 18.

Yi said Gorbachev's planned visit to South Korea, the first to be made by a top Soviet leader, would highlight the Soviet recognition of South Korea's role in the Asia-Pacific region and the Soviet policy of placing emphasis on cooperation with South Korea for the sake of peace and stability in the Korean peninsula and the Far East.

The summit, which comes for the third time over the past 10 months, would reflect the rapidity of the progress of the cooperative and friendly relations between the two countries, Yi said.

Yi said that the Cheju meeting would be an occasion for the two countries to improve their cooperative relations in the political and economic fields and have an expanded discussion on ways to settle peace in the Korean peninsula and improve regional cooperation in the Far East.

Another government official said the Soviet Union has already expressed a "full" support to the South Korean Government's position that the stability in the Korean peninsula is essential for that of the Far East.

"The two leaders are expected to intensively discuss matters concerning Korea's membership in the United Nations and promotion of inter-Korean dialogue and exchange. I hope that the Cheju meeting would particularly be helpful for the solution of the U.N. membership issue," he said.

Gorbachev had expressed his hope to visit South Korea "in the not distant future" when invited by No during their meeting in Moscow but has had to delay his tour to Korea owing to internal problems.

It is widely believed that the venue of the summit has been shifted to Cheju in consideration of the traditional alliance between Moscow and Pyongyang.

Opposition Criticizes Visit

SK1004061191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0551 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP)—Opposition parties Wednesday blasted Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev as lacking decorum and accused him of humiliating the country with his brief stopover on Cheju Island for a summit with President No Tae-u.

Pak Sang-cheon, spokesman for Kim Tae-chung's New Democratic Union Party (NDUP), said he felt humiliated that Gorbachev would stay only three or four hours and demanded the government renegotiate with Moscow for a courteous visit.

The foreign minister should be held responsible for agreeing to such a meeting, he said.

Chang Sok-hwa, spokesman for the splinter Democratic Party, said many people feared that nothing would come out of the No-Gorbachev summit because the Soviet leader's short visit was abnormal for a head of state in view of established international practices.

Chang claimed the date for the summit was set without discussing the agenda or procedural matters.

A summit should produce substantial results, helping to ease tension in Northeast Asia and establish peace on the Korean peninsula, he said.

YONHAP Analyzes Planned Visit

SK1004091491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0821 GMT 10 Apr 91

["News Analysis" by Kim Hong-suk: "Gorbachev Visit—Lots of Symbolism, Little Substance"—YONHAP headline]

[Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to South Korea for a brief summit April 19 is significant in terms of its symbolism, but little of substance is likely to come out of it.

Gorbachev will be the first Soviet leader ever to visit the capitalist South, coming here even before he goes to the communist North. Leonid Brezhnev and Aleksei Kosygin visited North Korea in the 1960s, and North Korean Leader Kim Il-song has been angling for a visit by Gorbachev since the Soviet reformer came to power in March 1985.

Diplomatic analysts say the Seoul government's ardor prompted Gorbachev to come to South Korea earlier than he planned, even for such a short stay. He will be on Korean soil for several hours at most.

While the symbolic meaning of the unprecedented visit cannot be overemphasized, unpleasant ripples may linger. South Korean opposition parties have already greeted Gorbachev's visit with criticism, accusing the government of begging for him to come.

Seoul-Moscow relations have progressed rapidly, particularly in the economic sector, since they were normalized on Sept. 30 last year. South Korea has pledged 3 billion U.S. dollars in support for Soviet reform, but Gorbachev, swamped by domestic problems, has been reluctant to return President No Tae-u's visit to Moscow in December last year. No and Gorbachev met first on June 4, 1990, in San Francisco.

There had long been speculation the Soviet leader would make a detour to Seoul while in Tokyo April 16-19, but Soviet officials consistently said domestic problems made it impossible. Even as recently as last week, Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev said here it would be difficult for Gorbachev to visit South Korea in the first half of the year.

Why the change of heart? What made Gorbachev decide to drop in on Cheju Island while striking coalminers and hostile political rivals are panting for his blood at home?

Apart from the South Korean Government's urge to repay No's visit this spring, most recently conveyed through Rogachev when he was in Seoul last week for the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific [ESCAP] session, it was Gorbachev's belief in an initiative concerning the Korean question, the analysts say.

The Soviet president, observers say, might have believed an initiative on the Korean question was necessary for his country to refurbish its image as a superpower, particularly in Northeast Asia.

The President has found limits in backing North Korea, its staunch ally and the most closed communist state in the world, amid the surge of new detente and is readying himself to play a key role in solving the Korean question.

The Soviet Union is the only one of those countries around the divided peninsula that has diplomatic relations with both halves. China has diplomatic relations with North Korea but has balked at opening formal ties with the South, and the United States and Japan have ties only with South Korea.

By normalizing relations with Seoul faster than expected, Moscow gained the upper hand in its dealings with Tokyo, according to the observers. They say the Soviets also believe better Seoul-Moscow ties are imperative to maximize their interests in Northeast Asia.

Another prime Soviet motive, the analysts say, is that peace on the Korean peninsula will ensure continued economic support for perestroyka.

The Soviet understanding of the political situation on and around the Korean peninsula is quite similar to South Korea's, and this may help Seoul achieve its most compelling task of territorial unification.

South Korea has long sought "peaceful unification based on recognition of the status quo" and plans to seek U.N. membership before September, but North Korea says joining the world body as separate nations would perpetuate national division.

Rogachev said here last week the Kremlin would not welcome Seoul's bid for U.N. membership as long as it was opposed by Pyongyang, but the analysts say the upcoming No-Gorbachev summit may produce something more agreeable to Seoul in this regard as a follow-up to the "Moscow declaration" signed last December.

In that declaration, Gorbachev said Moscow supported peaceful solutions to conflicts on the Korean peninsula and unification of Korea through peaceful, democratic means.

In it, he also stressed the "inadmissibility of the threat or use of force," indicating Moscow would hardly be on Pyongyang's side if it invaded the South.

The analysts say No and Gorbachev will discuss how to enhance inter-Korean dialogue but rule against any radical suggestion being made by Gorbachev toward North Korea this time. For now the Soviet leader is trying not to provoke North Korea, which is why he is making a "working" visit, not a "state" visit, and is going to Cheju instead of the capital. Vitaly Ignatenko, Gorbachev's spokesman, said Tuesday in Moscow that the South Koreans had suggested that the venue be Cheju.

Like Gorbachev, No has faced numerous troubles in the course of undertaking "democratic reforms" and has somehow appeased his political foes with his achievements on the international scene. The summit next week will further strengthen No's position amid the on-going political confusion and a sluggish economy.

No is expected to ask Gorbachev to make more efforts to open up North Korea and have it comply with South Korea's call for simultaneous yet separate U.N. membership. And he will say the North should open its nuclear facilities to international inspection by signing the safeguards agreement of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Like North Korea, the Soviet Union has called for U.S. troops to leave South Korea and for denuclearization of the South. No's response if Gorbachev raises this issue bears watching.

Government Approves Direct N-S Barter Trade

SK1004085691 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0800 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Direct North-South trade now will be facilitated. The government convened the Third North-South Exchange and Cooperation Promotion Council Meeting this afternoon. This meeting, presided over by Choe Ho-chung, deputy prime minister and minister of the National Unification Board, approved of an application by (Chonji) Trading Corporation to directly trade commodities with North Korea.

On 29 April, (Chonji) Trading Corporation and North Korea's Kumgangsan International Trade Promotion Company agreed on barter trade as a pilot project in which 5,000 tons of our rice will be directly transported from the port of Inchon to the port of Nampo and in which 30,000 tons of North Korean anthracite and 11,000 tons of North Korean cement will be directly transported from Nampo to Inchon.

As the result of today's approval of this North-South direct trade plan, (Chonji) Trading Corporation and North Korea's Kumgangsan International Trade Promotion Company will discuss in detail when and how to deliver commodities. They will use ships of third countries to transport rice to Nampo and North Korea's anthracite and cement to Inchon.

This will be the first direct North-South trade since President No Tae-u opened trade with North Korea in October 1988. It is predicted that this will spur North-South exchanges and cooperation in various fields.

Labor Minister May Meet North Counterpart

SK1004020491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0144 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP)—South and North Korean labor ministers may meet in Beijing between April 23 and 26, during the 12th conference of Asia and Pacific labor ministers, officials at the Labor Ministry said Wednesday.

North Korea is expected to take part in the biennial conference for the first time as the host is China, one of its staunchest allies, they said.

At the Beijing meeting, ministers from some 30 nations will discuss regional labor issues ranging from employment and training to technical cooperation.

Any talks between the South and North Korean ministers would probably cover joining the International Labor Organization (ILO) and exchanging laborers and technology.

During the conference, South Korea may seek ways to construct a job training institute at Yanbian, northeast China, where there is a large Korean population, and to hire Chinese laborers for work in Korea, China or Siberia, they said.

South Korean Labor Minister Choe Pyong-yol will be acting chairman of the conference as Seoul hosted the 11th session in 1987. The 12th session was scheduled for 1989 but was suspended until now due to China's financial difficulties following the pro-democracy movement in Tiananmen Sqaure.

The conference was only able to go ahead this year after it was agreed all the costs will be shouldered by participating nations.

The meeting is considered one of the most important labor forums, along with ILO and the international confederation of free trade unions.

Meeting on Forming Single Soccer Team Held

SK1004041991 Seoul Domestic Service in Korean 0300 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] At a meeting of liaison officials for forming a unified North-South soccer team to compete in the Sixth World Youth Soccer Championship held this morning in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom, both sides exchanged the namelists of team members who would play in the player-selecting games scheduled for May, and then readjusted part of the schedules.

At today's meeting, our side handed over to the North side a list of the names of sports officials, including O Wan-kun, vice president of the Korea Amateur Sports Association who is to head our team in the player-selecting games, players, and reporters, shelving, for the time being, the election of the head of the unified team. At today's meeting, our side also suggested that the period of player-selecting games be reduced from four nights and five days each in the North and South to three nights and four days, and the period of extensive training be increased from five nights and six days to 11 nights and 12 days each in the North and South, as a way to make up for the loss caused by the teams staying away from the (Chulong) International Youth Soccer Championship, or conduct trainings for change of weather, possibly in Spain or Morocco.

New Head of Unification Institute Interviewed

SK1004142691 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 7 Apr 91 P5

[Interview with Yi Pyong-yong, director of the newly established Research Institute of National Unification by reporter Kim In-chol; place and date not given; first two paragraphs are introductory]

[Text] The Research Institute of National Unification [minjok tongil yonguwon] will open its door on 9 April. The newly established Research Institute of National Unification was inaugurated at the beginning of this year with the mission of contributing to establishing the government's reunification policy by systematically researching the reunification issue. The research institute was inaugurated based on the Law on the Research Institute of National Unification which was passed in the National Assembly in August 1990. Its major annual projects, including budgets and settlement of accounts, are to be approved by the minister of the Board of National Unification.

The director of the institute is Mr. Yi Pyong-yong. He worked at the Board of National Unification as vice minister. He was also a member of our side's delegation to the North-South high-level talks last year.

[Kim In-chol] What is the purpose of establishing the institute?

[Yi Pyong-yong] As the situation surrounding us is rapidly changing, the reunification issue has become an urgent task. Accordingly, the necessity for establishing long-term and mid-term national reunification policies has become urgent. The inauguration of the institute is precisely in response to this necessity. Therefore, the institute will play the role of a think tank by suggesting future-oriented ideas and measures for the government in its establishment of reunification policies.

[Kim] What is the status of the institute?

[Yi] The Research Institute of National Unification is a government-run research organ and is, therefore, not a subordinate organ of the Board of National Unification. The Board of National Unification had a partial research function in the past. However, since the position of its minister was promoted to the position of deputy prime minister recently, the Board of National Unification has been changed into a policymaking and policy-execution organ. Therefore, our research institute will play the role of conducting comprehensive research activities necessary for restoring the national community between the North and the South and for achieving national reunification. It will also play the role of conducting research activity on the North Korean affairs that the Board of National Unification conducted in the past. So, our institute is a thorough research organ.

[Kim] What about the composition of your institute? What is your plan to secure research members of the institute?

[Yi] Our institute consists of a policy research office, a North Korean affairs research office, an international affairs research office, and a research coordination office which coordinates the activities of these three research offices. Our institute will secure 50 researchers with a doctorate degree and 10 researchers with a master's degree, totalling 60 researchers. We have already selected half of them and will secure the rest by September this year.

[Kim] What is the first task that your institute should do?

[Yi] First, we will start the work of earnestly analyzing North Korea's overall situation and the changes in its society due to the rapidly changing international situation. Along with this, we will also study in detail ways for realizing our reunification formula.

[Kim] I think that in order to become the think tank that plays the role of assisting the government's efforts for establishing its reunification policy, the institute should obtain much correct and accurate intelligence and information. What is your plan for this?

[Yi] We will utilize all intelligence and information which is available in the Board of National Unification, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Agency for National Security Planning, and other relevant organs. At the same time, we will maintain close ties with foreign research institutes for mutual exchanges of intelligence and joint research activity.

[Kim] How will the results of your research activity be used?

[Yi] We will provide our research results to the relevant organs, including the Board of National Unification, in a report form and on a continuous basis. We will also provide our research results to research institutes at universities and other relevant institutes. We will publish our own periodical, beginning next year.

[Kim] Finally, as an expert on the reunification issue who worked at the Board of National Unification for more than 20 years, what is your forecast on the improvement of relations between the North and the South?

[Yi] The North and the South have distinct differences in their basic position and their direction in the reunification issue. Therefore, I think that even if North-South high-level talks are resumed it will be difficult to expect substantial progress in them. The aftereffects which the reunified Germany is undergoing now gives us a valuable lesson. The North and the South have undergone the sufferings of a serious severance and confrontation which were inconceivable even in West and East Germany prior to their reunification.

Unless the people in the North and the South, who have lived separately for 45 long years, restore their national homogeneity, our nation cannot build the foundation for a national community. Accordingly, unless the foundation for a national community is built, our national reunification, the utmost task of the nation, will become a task taking a long time to be solved. So, it is important to establish a long-term measure to achieve a national community. Establishing a long-term measure to achieve national reunification is also one of the tasks that our institute should fulfill in the future.

Unification Board Allows North Potatoes Import

SK1004090191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0857 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (YONHAP)—South Korea is likely to import 4,000 to 5,000 tons of North Korean potatoes this month to depress prices at home, a senior official of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Ministry said Tuesday.

The National Unification Board had decided to grant Hein Products Co. permission to import 2,000 tons of North Korean potatoes, he said. Hein could get the potatoes this month, depending on when the Board issues the permit.

In addition, the Ministry would seek to import 2,000 to 3,000 tons of North Korean potatoes, he said.

The government made the decision because of the soaring wholesale price of domestic potatoes, which has shot up 497 won to 1,277 won a kilogram in early April. It was 780 won a kilogram in December.

The government allowed three private companies to introduce 12,643 tons of North Korean potatoes in late 1990.

DPRK Embassy in CAR Reportedly To Close

SK0604035391 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 5 Apr 91

[Text] Yi Yong-hak, North Korean ambassador to the Central African Republic [CAR], revealed that the North Korean Embassy in the Central African Republic will close due to difficulties in North Korea's economy.

Pak Hyong-kyu Booked for Pro-Pyongyang Remarks

SK0804081791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0750 GMT 8 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 8 (YONHAP)—The Rev. Pak Hyong-kyu, 68, was booked without detention Monday on charges that remarks he made during a sermon in San Francisco last month were pro-Pyongyang. Pak says the press in America misquoted him and embellished his remarks.

A spokesman for Seoul Metropolitan Police said it was clear from a video of the sermon that Pak had spoken favorably about North Korea, but "because of his age" he would not be detained.

Afghanistan Proposes Restoring Diplomatic Ties

SK0704011391 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Apr 91 p 2

[Text] Afghanistan has proposed the restoration of diplomatic relations with South Korea, Foreign Ministry spokesman Chong Ui-yong said yesterday. Seoul broke off diplomatic ties with Afghanistan after the Soviet military occupied the country in 1978.

Ghulam Muhayuddin Shahbaz, Afghan minister of planning, called on South Korean Foregin Minister Yi Sang-ok Thursday, delivering a message from Afghan Foreign minister 'Abdul Wakil calling for restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries, Chong said.

Shahbaz is now in Seoul to attend the 47th general meeting of the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).

In response, Yi told Shahbaz that Seoul would consider establishing ambassador-level relations with Kabul after consultations with such countries as Pakistan and Iran, which are currently involved in diplomatic disputes with Afghanistan, the spokesman said.

Medical Team, Air Force Transport Team Return

SK1004130991 Seoul YONHAP in English 1235 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP)—South Korea's 314-member military medical team and Air Force transport unit, which were deployed in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, respectively, in support of the U.S.-led allied forces in the Gulf war, returned home Wednesday.

Their return was hailed by about 3,000 people, including their families and relatives and the chiefs of staff of the Army, Navy and Air Force in a planeside welcoming ceremony held at Seoul airport. Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku said in his welcoming address that "We give you a warm welcome. You completed your duty successfully in accordance with the U.N. resolutions."

All returning officers and men were decorated and cited for their service in the Gulf and 32 civilians, including 20 foreigners, were presented with letters of thanks signed by the defense minister or chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for their contributions to the expeditionary units.

The medical team, which was based in Al Nuairia of Saudi Arabia, had treated 1,634 wounded Iraqi and allied soldiers since Jan. 19 and the air transportation unit, which was placed in Al Ayn in the UAE, made 323 sorties, flying 1,405 coalition soldiers and 713 tons of cargo since Feb. 26.

The teams are to be disbanded Thursday.

No Urges Fair, Strict Inheritance Tax

SK1004004591 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 10 Apr 91 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u has called for fair and strict taxation on inherited property to help prevent "wealth by heredity."

No instructed tax authorities to levy inheritance or donation taxes "correctly and thoroughly" to deter untaxed transmissions of wealth from generation to generation.

The President was receiving reports from economic ministers, including Deputy Premier-Economic Planning Minister Choe Kak-kyu, about first quarter economic trends at Chongwadae yesterday.

He stressed that a fair and strict levying of inheritance and donation tax would help dissipate the negative view of big businesses.

No also told the economic ministers to "push through policies to save energies despite the end of the Gulf War," noting that not a single drop of oil is produced in the country.

He directed them to work out diverse plans for energy conservation both at home and industries.

Referring to labor-management relations, the President asked the ministers to take the lead in creating an atmosphere for social stability, while ensuring peaceful labor-management negotiations on pay raises.

In particular, No instructed the economic ministers to take necessary measures without delay for expanding indirect social capital such as roads or ports and investment in manpower and technology development.

Kim Tae-chung Plans To Barnstorm Across Nation

SK1004073091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0701 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP)—Top opposition leader Kim Tae-chung, president of the New Democratic Union (NDU), plans to go barnstorming across the country from the end of the month in a campaign to promote his newest party and generate support before local elections in June.

Inaugurated Tuesday, the NDU was created by merging Kim's Party for Peace and Democracy with a dissident group.

NDU leaders were holding their first meeting Wednesday to pick senior executives and form a party organization committee, which will set up 70 district chapters in preparation for elections.

"Kim's trip is aimed at fomenting a pro-NDU boom in every nook and cranny of the country with the rallies as momentum, paving the way for victory in the elections," an NDU official said.

Party members from the dissident group would be made chapter heads in central Korea, in Kyonggi, Kangwon and Chungchong Provinces, to strengthen the NDU in vulnerable areas, he said.

Nine key officeholders from Kim's old party, including floor leader, secretary-general and chief policy-maker, would remain at their posts because of ongoing negotiations over reform bills with the ruling party, an upcoming National Assembly session and the local elections, he said.

Four Thousand Daewoo Union Workers Strike

SK1004005091 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 10 Apr 91 p 3

[Text] About 4,000 union workers of Daewoo Motor Co. Pupyong plant walked off the job yesterday in protest against the detention of two union leaders.

The unionists held a rally denouncing police for detaining Choe Yong-chu, senior union vice chairman, and Yon Pyong-chol, union safety department chief.

About 100 riot police stormed the union's office at 5:40 P.M. Monday and whisked away the two union leaders.

A police spokesman said arrest warrants had been issued in advance against the two on charges of staging work stoppages and sit-ins following the arrest of union chairman Yi Un-u, 30 Yi is suspected of attending a meeting of the large corporation union alliance, an unauthorized labor organization, last February.

Production Automation Causes Deficit With U.S.

SK1004021391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0133 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP)—A drive to automate production earned South Korea a 54 million-U.S.-dollar deficit in trade with the United States for the first time last year, the Korea Association of Machinery Industry (KOAMI) said Wednesday.

U.S.-bound exports of machinery, except for electronic and shipbuilding products, amounted to 5.78 billion dollars, down 10 percent from 6.43 billion dollars in 1989. Imports reached 5.84 billion dollars, up 4.6 percent.

KOAMI officials blamed the deficit on an influx of capital goods for factory automation and a government campaign to shift import sources from Japan to redress Seoul's trade imbalance with Tokyo.

Korea's trade deficit with United States swelled 76.3 percent in general industrial machinery, from 680 million dollars in 1989 to 1.199 billion dollars, and 31 percent in precision machinery, from 334 million to 438 million dollars.

In areas where Korea still had a surplus, the excess shrank 36 percent in transportation machinery trade to 273 million dollars, 19.3 percent in electric machinery to 2.44 billion dollars and 8.5 percent in metal goods to 972 million dollars.

Samsung Opens Steel Joint Venture in Indonesia

SK0904063791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0603 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 9 (OANA-YONHAP)—The Samsung group, Yongchang Steel Co. and Indonesia's Pt.Str will set up a steel plant, with the South Koreans providing 70 percent of the capital, a Samsung spokesman said Tuesday.

The 7,920-square-meter plant in Indonesia is scheduled to open in July. It will cover 39,600 square meters of ground and produce 54,000 tons of steel products a year once the facilities go into full operation in 1995, he said.

Samsung will put up 40 percent or 4.5 million U.S. dollars of the 12 million dollars needed for plant construction and Yongchang, a medium-sized Korean steel company, will pitch in 30 percent of the investment. Pt.Str will be responsible for the remaining 30 percent, he said.

Construction will be completed by end of June and the output will be sold to third countries as well as Indonesia, he said.

Private Companies To Get Value Added Networks

SK1004033491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0252 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Seoul, April 10 (YONHAP)—The government will allow private companies to offer value-added network (VAN) services, currently monopolized by the Data Communications Corp. of Korea (DACOM), from next week to strengthen their competitiveness before it opens the VAN market to foreign firms.

Companies registered for VAN services with the Communications Ministry will be able to offer data transmission, packet-switching , international data base (DB) and data processing (DP) services.

As of the end of March, 17 private VAN companies registered with the ministry were allowed to engage in limited areas of VAN—electronic mail, message handling and computerized reservation of airplane tickets.

The data transmission service is the resale of low-speed data communications lines to end users by dividing a single high-speed line leased from the public carrier into low-speed lines.

Packet-switching is the routing of packets of data from a source through a network of lines and reassembling them in the original order at their destination.

The transmission lines resale market is estimated at 82 billion won (113.1 million U.S. dollars) last year and the packet-switching market at 11.4 billion won based on DACOM's 1990 turnover.

The ministry does not allow private companies to offer voice, telex and facsimile services, and private VAN companies are required to get the communications minister's approval for international data base and data processing services.

The DB and DP service markets will open to foreign firms in July, as scheduled.

Under regulations on data communication between Korean and foreign companies, Korean companies may use international data communications circuits only with overseas subsidiaries in which they hold more than 30 percent of the equity or with foreign companies with which transactions exceed 20 percent of their total turnover.

Paper To Provide Electronic News Service

SK1004010291 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 10 Apr 91 p 1

[Text] The KOREA HERALD will provide news for businesses via the NICE-TIPS data base beginning May 1.

The electronic news service has been made possible under a contract signed by Choe Su-yong, president-publisher of THE KOREA HERALD-NAEWAY ECONOMIC DAILY, and Kim Chong-ung, president of National Information & Credit Evaluation Inc., yesterday.

Economic and business news as well as political and other news will be provided for subscribers to NICE-TIPS.

Subscribers include manufacturers, banks, financing companies, insurers, securities firms, distribution chains and such government agencies as the Ministry of Finance.

NICS, a provider of credit information services established by the Korea Federation of Banks and 28 domestic banks, is the second company with whom THE KOREA HERALD has signed an accord on electronic information exchange.

THE KOREA HERALD concluded a similar accord with Data Communications Corp. (DACOM) of Korea in 1986.

Under the accords, THE KOREA HEALD is able to use information from NICE and DACOM data bases in its subscriber services.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Embassy Investigation Team To Visit Aceh

BK0904094091 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0848 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 9 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The Malaysian Embassy in Jakarta will send a team to Aceh to investigate claims by 80 Indonesians detained in Northwestern Pulau Pinang State that they were fleeing violence in the Northern Sumatran Province.

A Malaysian Foreign Ministry (Wisma Putra) official said Tuesday the team would submit its findings to the ministry here before a final decision would be made on the status of the Indonesians.

We have to make some evaluation on the actual situation in the province to determine the truth of their claims, he added.

The Indonesians, including women and children, who arrived in Pulau Pinang in boats have asked Malaysian authorities for refugee status.

It was reported that dozens of villagers had fled in boats to Malaysia to escape violence between the armed forces and separatist rebels in Aceh.

On the other hand, the matter would be referred to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) if they were considered as refugees.

An Indonesian Embassy spokesman here said they were still waiting for Wisma Putra to determine the status of the Indonesians.

He said the Indonesians were probably fleeing from hardship caused by the rebel group which he identified as "Gerakan Pengacau Keamanan Aceh (GPKA) [Aceh Security Disturbance Band]."

U.S. Embassy Report on Economic Policy Viewed

BK1004110791 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Malaysia's foreign investment policies have injected more confidence among American companies to invest here. This is in view that the country's continuing growth prospects present opportunities for American business. The United States Embassy in Kuala Lumpur in a report recently, said that U.S. direct investments in Malaysia are projected to increase significantly. In fact a massive sum of a 11.2 billion U.S. dollars is expected to be phased here. This goes to show that American investment in Malaysia is important in the overall bilateral relationship. Expansion of the electronics and petroleum industries have been a prime factor in the strong U.S. presence here. There also opportunities in the telecommunications sector for U.S. firms willing to make committments in the market. The confidence shown by the Americans and numerous other investors is due to the excellent management of the economy by the government.

Despite the dampening world economy, Malaysia's economy has grown progressively for five years. As a result, Malaysia is on the world map for successful economies. Malaysians are headed for increasingly better times as they stride forward toward the next decade.

Sound economic policies, proper implementation, and hard work would take the people to the next higher level of economic prosperity. As industrialization is being emphasized, there is a need to ensure continued increases in productivity and efficiency. This forms part of the phases of Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed's 20-20 vision for Malaysians. His hope is for the country to achieve the developed nation's status by that year.

So far nearly all of Dr. Mahathir's economic policies have worked out successfully. The people are enjoying continuing prosperity. Then there is no reason why this winning formula should not be continued. The public and private sectors need to work closely together. Whatever weakness that could stifle economic growth has to be identified and cleared up.

On the part of the government, it has fully accepted that a strong and profitable private sector will bring more revenue and transfer development. The process of deregulation will continue and red tape will be cut down to a minimum. This has been stated by the embassy in the report which lauded Malaysia's liberal economic policies.

The result has been that in over the last three years a hefty 49.5 billion ringgit of investments was approved. What this country needs is a correct mix of professionals, craftsmen, and artisans. Also it needs those who are competent in science and technology, and social sciences. Ultimately, Malaysia needs to be self reliant and dynamic.

While many developing countries are plagued with problems, Malaysia has a different story to tell. Its successes did not come the easy way. Well-planned policies and the committments by the people have led Malaysia to what it is today. But for further growth, there has to be greater vision and greater commitment. Malaysia has to have the competitive edge to woo foreign investments. It has already done so and there is no reason why it cannot continue to be an example of a successful economy.

Cambodia

Chea Sim Reiterates 3-Point Stance in Kratie

BK1004070291 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0415 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK April 10—Chea Sim, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and chairman of both the

National Assembly and the National Council of the United Front for Construction and Defence of the Kampuchean Fatherland, went to Kratie Province on April 5 to plant a pipal tree.

Chairman Chea Sim was accompanied by Mat Ly, Politburo member and vice president of the Control Commission of the PRPK, and Men Sam- an, Politburo member and president of the Cambodian Federation of Trade Unions.

Addressing the pipal tree-planting ceremony attended by more than 10,000 people, Chea Sim recalled the sufferings of the Cambodian people under the four-year rule over the country by the Polpotists who trampled underfoot Buddhism and other religions in Cambodia. After reiterating the government's goodwill aspiration for an end to the conflict through a peaceful, political solution, the Cambodian leader said a solution to the Cambodian issue is impossible unless Cambodia's sovereignty is respected and the danger of Pol Pot's return kept in check.

He blamed the three Khmer opposition factions for their attempts to block by all means the peace process started in Cambodia.

Chairman Chea Sim repeated the three-point principled stance adopted by the recent National Assembly session in connection with a settlement to the Cambodian problem, which calls for measures to prevent the comeback of Polpotists, the maintenance of the military and political status quo during the transitional period to the holding of free and fair general elections, a role to be played by the United Nations in accordance with the UN Charter and on the basis of respect for the Cambodian people's right to self- determination.

Chea Sim called on all countrymen to heighten their spirit of patriotism and stay vigilant against any enemy manoeuvres and to bar any possible return to power by the Khmer Rouge Polpotists.

While in Kratie, the Cambodian leader called on the provincial authorities and local population and granted gifts to families of war invalids and fallen combatants.

Chea Sim Inaugurates Schools in Prey Veng

BK1004054791 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] On the morning of 8 April a high-level party, state, and front delegation headed by Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the National Assembly and of the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense National Council, attended the presidium of the inauguration of junior high schools of Chiphoch and Prey Khneh Communes of Mesang District, Prey Veng Province. The delegation also contributed 10,000 riels for their construction.

Present, among others, were Comrade Mat Ly, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the National Assembly and of the party Central Committee's Control Commission; Comrade General Sin Song, alternate member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of the interior; Comrade Kong Sam-ol, member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Yim Chhaili, member of the party Central Committee and minister of health; Comrade Yut Phuthang, member of the party Central Committee and secretary of the Prey Veng Provincial Party Committee; and party and state leading cadres of the province and Mesang District as well as teachers, school staff, students, Buddhist monks, elders, and representatives of the Armed Forces and over 20,000 people.

After Comrade Yut Phouthang on behalf of Prey Veng Province's party and state authorities had reported on the construction of the two junior high schools of Chiphoch and Prey Khneh Communes, Comrade Chhuon Chhat, deputy secretary of the district's provisional party committee and chairman of the district people's committee, read to Comrade Chea Sim, the National Assembly chairman, a petition on behalf of cadres, personnel, workers, Armed Forces, and people of Mesang District supporting the resolution adopted at the recent extraordinary session of the First National Assembly.

Then, Comrade Chairman Chea Sim made a speech expressing warmest and most cordial feelings and best wishes to the party and administrative cadres, party members, mass organizations, Armed Forces, Buddhist monks, teachers, students, and people of Mesang District on the occasion of the traditional new year.

He also recalled the struggle waged by Mesang District people, who have always made great sacrifices in fighting and driving out colonialists and imperialists and in overthrowing the genocidal Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan regime on 7 January 1979.

Comrade Chairman Chea Sim stressed that for the past 12 years under the correct leadership of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party, the people of Mesang District like Cambodians in the rest of the country have actively and vigorously contributed by fighting and overcoming all obstacles to rebuilding and defending the motherland. They have selflessly offered their sons and husbands for army service and paid keen attention to increasing production and building adequate living conditions for themselves while enjoying the freedom to learn, to engage in business, and to observe religion and true national customs.

Comrade Chairman Chea Sim also briefed participants on the goodwill of the party and government of the State of Cambodia in the search for peace for the Cambodian people through a political solution to the Cambodian problem so as to bring an early end to the war.

Finally, Comrade Chairman Chea Sim urged all those present to continue upholding the banner of great national solidarity around the party, state, and front, especially by further intensifying the will to fight in

sacrifice through sending sons and husbands to serve in the armed forces, thus contributing to the prevention of the genocidal Pol Pot regime from returning to power.

Moreover, the whole population should intensify the campaigns to increase production, harvest dry-season rice, sell surplus paddy to the state, and prepare for the coming monsoon rice crop. In education, attention should be paid to expanding the construction of schools in all localities and utmost efforts to implement the Education Ministry curriculum to contribute to the rebuilding and defense of the Cambodian motherland and bring about prosperity.

Military Activities in Mar Reported

BK1004063391 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] In March, the tripartite genocidal alliance continued to shell and destroy our people's localities in several regions adjoining the Cambodian-Thai border. The enemy has also ordered troops to infiltrate and plunder our people's foodstuff and property in the remote areas of Battambang, Banteay Meanchey, Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, and Kompong Thom Provinces.

During the same period, the Armed Forces in various units counterattacked the enemy and set it back seriously. They killed 665 enemy soldiers, including 435 killed and 130 taken prisoners; with 42 surrendering. Our people's Armed Forces also seized 378 assorted weapons, 66 tonnes of assorted shells and over 64,000 rounds of ammunition, seven field radios, and a large quantity of other war materiel.

VOK Cautions Vietnam Against 'Greedy' Scheme

BK0604105591 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 6 Apr 91

[Political commentary: "Should Vietnam Be Allowed To Get Away With It?"]

[Text] A peaceful solution to the Cambodian problem, proposed by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC], has been deadlocked because Vietnam has manipulated its pawn, the Heng Samrin-Hun Sen regime, to do its bidding instead. With its dirty game, Vietnam wants to drag the draft Cambodian peace plan to a dead end. So far, the cochairmen—France and Indonesia—the ASEAN countries, and many other countries have been making efforts to get out of this stalemate. Can the cochairmen of the international conference break this stalemate?

The game Vietnam's has played in the Cambodian problem was not a complicated one which the world found difficult to understand. The world clearly realized that Vietnam was trying to not just get itself out of trouble but also to gain excessively from it. Vietnam has staged the farce of a complete troop pullout from Cambodia to show that it is no longer involved in the Cambodian problem. However, its' outdated trick was not successful. Instead, the world has further denounced Vietnam for cheating in broad daylight.

We note that Vietnam still has not lost hope. It is now trying to delude the international community into believing that Vietnam is no longer involved. This is a gamble on Vietnam's part. It has ordered the Hun Sen group to accept the peace plan of the five major powers. Through this, Vietnam wants to show that it is no longer involved in the Cambodian problem while it continues to completely occupy Cambodia. Vietnam has pinned a lot of its hopes on this to succeed. However, this is just an illusion.

Immediately after the Cambodians—who are Vietnam's pawns—rejected the peace plan, the slightly-loosened international community's noose around Vietnam's neck has quickly tightened. Thus, Vietnam has lost all hope in its two capers. The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry recently announced again that Vietnam will not send its troops back to Cambodia even if Cambodia is taken over again by Pol Pot.

We can clearly fathom Vietnam's thinking. Vietnam has announced this despite knowing that no one will believe it. Vietnam has to do this in order to get out. However, this is not an ordinary way out for Vietnam; Vietnam wants to get rid of the international community's pressure but still control Cambodia. Thus, world opinion realizes that it should not be allowed to get away with this.

The cochairman and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, which is responsible for world security, realizes at present that Vietnam should be further pressured into solving the Cambodian problem. Can Vietnam thus oppose the world while it no longer has the support of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe? Vietnam still wants to try because Cambodian land is most precious to Vietnam. However, this greedy Vietnamese scheme will put Vietnam at the receiving end of most serious consequences if it does not give up this idea on time.

Indonesia

Alatas on 'Unauthorized' Nationals in Malaysia

BK0904153691 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Alatas hopes that the arrival of 83 Indonesian nationals from Aceh in Malaysia will be settled immediately by the two governments through diplomatic channels. Minister Ali Alatas told newsmen in Jakarta today that there had been two recent unauthorized landings by Indonesian nationals from Aceh in Malaysia—51 persons on 15 March and 32 persons on 3 April 1991. He said the Indonesian and Malaysian Governments have long cooperated, particularly in handling the arrival of illegal immigrants. For this reason, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said illegal Indonesian immigrants seeking jobs in Malaysia normally have their status legalized or are repatriated.

Radio on Decline in Efforts for Cambodia Solution

BK1004071791 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0000 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] If the proposed informal meeting on Cambodia in Jakarta to be attended by members of the Cambodian Supreme National Council after next week's 'Id al-Fitr holidays could successfully allow the Paris International Conference on Cambodia to call for a Coordinating Committee meeting in Paris, then it will have successfully accelerated the momentum of holding peace talks on Cambodia. It should be realized that such efforts are currently on the decline.

The most important item on the agenda is the United Nations Security Council [UNSC] peace agreement. However, the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council—the United States, China, Britain, France, and the Soviet Union—being the major planners, have brushed aside any hopes of success unless Vietnam, Thailand, and China decide to cooperate. In fact, Vietnam is reluctant to pressure its 12-year old Phnom Penh regime to accept the United Nations Security Council's program on administration, which is to supervise and administrate Cambodia before, during, and after the general election. Interestingly, the Phnom Penh regime has expressed its desire to host the general election. Besides, China has said that it would continue supplying arms to the Khmer Rouge though it should be compelling the Khmer Rouge to accept the UNSC program. Therefore, as Vietnam is reluctant to persuade the Phnom Penh regime to accept the UNSC program, China is also averse to pressuring the Khmer Rouge.

Meanwhile, the fall of the Chatchai Chunhawan government in Thailand created more difficulties because the new government revoked all visas issued to Cambodian passports holders. This has aggravated communications between Phnom Penh and Bangkok.

War will definitely continue if the UNSC peace program cannot be realized. Therefore, the decline in efforts being made for a Cambodian settlement is not in any way connected to the proposed Jakarta meeting which urges an immediate meeting for peace in Cambodia.

Polish Official Addresses Foreign Affairs Forum

BK1004090991 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0734 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Jakarta, Apr 10 (OANA-ANTARA)—Political and economic changes in Poland in the last two years will improve the country's bilateral relations with Indonesia, Poland's Deputy Foreign Minister Jan Majewski said here Tuesday.

Majewski, who is now in Indonesia, said before participants of a foreign political issues discussion forum at the Indonesian Foreign Ministry that he viewed with optimism the future Poland-Indonesia relations. He said that following the election of Lech Walesa as the president of Poland, the country began to concentrate its foreign relations with Asian countries, including Indonesia as a member as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The six-nation noncommunist grouping was described by Majewski as a regional organization with an important role to play in the international fora.

On Indonesia's international activities, he said as a member of the Nonaligned Movement (NAM), the country had been able to come up with important initiatives, while in Indochina it had also conducted serious efforts to solve the Cambodian conflict.

Majewski also talked about the political transformation in his country, saying that it mainly took place when the Solidarity labor movement won the general elections in June 1989. Poland is the first non-communist country in Eastern Europe, he said, adding that in the first stages, it might have to pay a rather high socioeconomic price in transforming its centralized economy to market economy in a relatively short time. In December last year, he said Poland carried out its first general elections to choose a president, which resulted in the presidency seat for Lech Walesa.

The former leader of the Solidarity trade union is expected to continue the country's economic reforms, Majewski said, adding that next in the domestic political agenda of Poland was the setting of date of the election of the parliament (Sejm) members. He said the election was estimated to take place in October this year to end the transition period between a communist and a democratic administration system.

On ties with other European countries, the deputy foreign secretary said it would continue its relations with the Council of Europe and planned to join it after the election of Sejm members sometime in October. Poland, he said, will also sign an agreement with the European Economic Community (EEC) to become a junior member.

Official: No Political Prisoners on Pulau Buru

BK0904114791 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 1 Apr 91 p 10

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—Indonesia rejects claims by Amnesty International and foreign media that the former prison island of Pulau Buru in Central Maluku still holds political prisoners.

"There are no political prisoner there anymore," Kosky Zakaria, an official of the Ministry of Information, said in the Maluku capital city of Ambon, ANTARA reported on Saturday. Kosky said that the western media dramatized their reports by saying that the island resembled a NAZI concentration camp.

In 1969 the government shipped out 10,000 communists to a rehabilitation center on the island following an abortive coup by the Indonesian Communist Party (PKI) in 1965. The prisoners were released in 1979.

Kosky said recent reports about the island were deliberately spread by PKI sympathizers and people who have access to Amnesty International, or by remnants of the party trying to ruin the image of the Indonesian government in the eyes of the world. Kosky deplored the lack of press coverage on the amount of development on the island. "The foreign media exploited this, printing articles which will damage the Indonesian government.

"The only thing going on there is development activities, carried out by the New Order government, involving local people, including those who used to be political prisoners," he said, adding that the former prisoners have now "already mixed with local people." He suggested that the provincial administration invite domestic and foreign press representatives to the island in order to correct the misperception and report on the development which is taking place there.

Ministers Detail 3 Apr Cabinet Meeting on Economy

BK0904104991 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 4 Apr 91 p 1

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The government's revenue from domestic sources last fiscal year reached Rp [rupiah] 39,546.4 billion (U.S. $20.48 billion) or 25 percent more than originally expected due to the far higher than estimated price of crude oil, says Minister of Finance Johannes B. Sumarlin.

He told a press conference after a limited cabinet meeting on economy at the Bina Graha presidential office here yesterday that the government's revenues from foreign aid, however, fell short by 12.2 percent from the originally projected Rp 11,289.5 billion to Rp 9,904.6 billion.

"The lower than expected revenue from foreign aid was caused by the fact that the governemnt could finally raise only Rp 1.4 trillion in special aid which could be converted into rupiah," Sumarlin said, adding that the government originally expected to obtain Rp 2.8 trillion in special aid (besides Rp 8.4 trillion in project aid).

Sumarlin, who was accompanied by Minister of Information Harmoko at the press conference, explained that out of the total domestic revenues, Rp 17,711.9 billion (as compared to the original estimate of Rp 10,783.2 billion) came from the oil and gas sector and Rp 21,834.5 billion (as compared to Rp 20,800.4 billion) from non-oil sectors. The higher than expected revenues from the oil and gas sector were caused by the fact that oil prices averaged at $22.60 a barrel last fiscal year (ended last month), while the government originally projected only $16.50, he said. Improved economic performance and better tax compliance helped increase the government's revenues from non-oil sectors, he added.

Sumarlin said that the government's routine spendings last fiscal year reached Rp 29,997.7 billion or 12.5 percent higher than originally expected because its subsidy for domestic fuel consumption reached Rp 3.3 trillion, far exceeding the original estimate of Rp 626.5 billion. The fuel subsidy consisted of Rp 2,619.2 billion for consumption in 1990/91, Rp 558.9 billion for 1989/90 and Rp 123 billion for 1988/89, he said. "The higher than expected fuel subsidy was caused by increased crude oil prices and a larger than estimated level of fuel consumption," he said.

The minister said that in order to balance the budget, the governemnt last fiscal year increased its development spendings to Rp 19,452 billion, as compared to the original estimate of Rp 16,225 billion, by budgeting Rp 2 trillion as reserves to cover any shortfall in oil and foreign aid receipts that might occur this fiscal year (beginning this month) The government's budget for this fiscal year is expected to balance at Rp 50,555.5 billion.

"Because the government's revenues totaled Rp 49,451 billion last fiscal year, while its total spendings were only Rp 49,449.7 billion, there remains a surplus of Rp 1.3 billion," Sumarlin said. He said the government considered the Rp 2 trillion cash reserves for this fiscal year's development programs as necessary because developments in oil prices on the world market were still uncertain, while the flow of aid from industrial to developing countries showed a downward trend. "The shortfall of our receipts from special aid last fiscal year indicates that the flow of aid from industrial to developing countries is declining," he said.

Minister Sumarlin said that the better than expected implementation of the government's budget plan for last fiscal year, coupled by single digit inflation (9.11 percent), increase in foreign exchange reserves and declines of speculative activities in foreign exchange trade, encouraged the government to start gradually easing its tight monetary policy. "The relaxation of the tight money policy will be conducted throuigh various measures, including the release of cash by buying money market securities from banks and companies," he said.

Minister Harmoko said that the consumer price index increased only by 0.03 percent last month, thereby bringing inflation to 1.09 percent during the first quarter of this year. According to Harmoko, the money supply declined by 1.18 percent to Rp 23,537 billion as of January from Rp 23,819 billion as of December.

The government tightened the country's liquidity situation in late February by ordering 12 state companies to transfer their Rp 8.1 trillion deposits from state and private banks to the central bank through the purchase of Bank Indonesia Certificates (SBI).

Harmoko said the cabinet meeting also reported about Indonesia's overseas trade. The country's exports in January reached $2,489.4 million, while its imports were valued at $1,845.4 million, thereby resulting in a trade surplus of $644 million.

Laos

SRV's Nguyen Van Linh Addresses Party Congress

BK3103152791 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 28 Mar 91

["Address" by Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, at the Fifth Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party on 27 March—read by announcer]

[Text] The delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] is extremely happy to attend the Fifth Congress of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP]. On this occasion, we would like to extend the salutations and fraternal and intimate friendship of the CPV and the entire Vietnamese people to the congress, the honorable and majestic LPRP, and the heroic multiethnic Lao people.

The Fifth LPRP Congress is convened when the cause of restructuring has been implemented in Laos for more than four years and when the world situation is rapidly developing —both in a favorable and complex manner. This congress is an extremely important event in the political life of the Lao people.

This congress marks a new and steady development stage of the Lao revolution and the LPRP toward their noble ideals and objectives. The political report of the LPRP Central Committee presented by respected and beloved Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan, the excellent leader of the Lao party and people, is the culmination and enhancement of the wisdom of the entire Lao party and people. It is an application of the widely accepted fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism into the reality of Laos with a sense of creativity. It is an overall review of all experiences drawn from many rich and resourceful lessons in the cause of comprehensive restructuring in the Lao revolution, which has been launched since the Fourth Party Congress. At the same time, it also outlines the direction to take the Lao revolution toward a new stage of development.

Over the past more than four years, having applied the line of restructuring outlined by the Fourth Party Congress and subsequently translated into detailed plans and gradually supplemented by the fourth LPRP at its various plenary sessions, the Lao Army and people have further enhanced the tradition of patriotism, unity, and the resolutely gallant and unyielding spirit of revolutionary struggle, and have overcome numerous trials and difficulties, thereby scoring successive great victories. As a result, the economic structure, the management mechanisms, and the political system in Laos have been restructured by one more step. Laos' international relations and foreign economic relations have been broadened. Laos' national independence and sovereignty, peace, and social order have been securely maintained. Fundamental factors for political stability have been subsequently created. Laos' socioeconomic situation has been basically changed. The status and influence of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] have been gradually upheld in the international arena. Realities have proven that the restructuring line and policies pursued by the LPRP and the LPDR are correct and conform with the practical conditions in Laos, meet the aspirations and interests of the Lao people of all ethnic groups, and constitute an important contribution to strengthening the position and might of the revolutions in the three countries—Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam—and a positive contribution to the world people's struggle for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress. The CPV and the Vietnamese people would like to wholeheartedly hail those great victories of yours, comrades.

Comrades and friends: In Vietnam, having implemented the restructuring line and policies outlined by our Sixth Party Congress, which have been translated and supplemented into detailed plans in the process of their application in the past more than four years, the Vietnamese people have managed to win the most important great initial victory, that is to steadfastly maintain political stability and to securely defend the national independence and sovereignty. The state-financed, bureaucratic, and centralized mechanisms have been gradually eliminated. The economic management mechanisms have been basically renovated. The economic structure has been modified. The national economy is in a process of evolving to advance along the progressive direction. The market economy under the management of the socialist state has emerged in the initial stage.

The socioeconomic life of the country has undergone certain important changes. That is, inflation has been curbed one step further; food production has made progress; needs for essential goods have been more effectively met; exports have increased; and foreign economic relations have made new steps in development. All of these successes have proven that the restucturing line and policies outlined and implemented by our party are moving forward in the direction.

At present, the CPV is actively making preparations to convene the Seventh National Congress of its delegates on the basis of a general review of the result of the restructuring conducted over the past more than 4 years. The seventh congress will develop, supplement, and perfect the party's restructuring policy, and adopt a program of national construction in the period of transition to socialism and a strategy for socioeconomic stabilization and development in Vietnam until the year 2000, with a view toward attaining the target of the first stage, namely firm stability in all aspects of economic, political, and social life through comprehensive restructuring, as preconditions for rapid development in the following stage.

Faced with complicated developments in the world situation at present, the party and state of Vietnam have decided to pursue and enhance its foreign policy of independence, sovereignty, and international solidarity, in order to contribute to safeguarding peace and strengthening traditional friendship with the USSR and other socialist countries.

We will do everything within our power to preserve, safeguard, and develop the special solidarity and friendly relations with the fraternal Cambodian party, government, and people and resolutely support a fair and reasonable political solution to the Cambodian issue on the basis of respect for the independence, neutrality, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and right to self-determination of the Cambodian people.

The Vietnamese people highly cherish their friendship with the Chinese people. We are striving to restore our friendship and cooperation with the CPC and the PRC.

The CPV consistently supports the struggle of the working class and all peoples in the world against the reactionary forces for peace, national independence, democracy, and social progress. The Vietnamese party and state have a policy to broaden the cooperation and friendship with the developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region, Africa, and Latin America. We attach importance to developing our relations with the other countries in Southeast Asia so as together to build this region into a region of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation.

Comrades and friends: We are extremely elated to see that throughout the historic period of the revolutionary struggle of our two peoples, the Vietnamese-Lao special relations, solidarity, and friendship, which were diligently nurtured and built by President Ho Chi Minh and our two parties and which have passed through trials and have been built with the blood and lives of our heroic combatants and with the sacrifices made by Vietnamese and Lao peoples for generations, have become pure, sincere, and faithful international relations. One of the numerous sources of strength is deciding the victories of the revolutions in our two countries. The beautiful picture and the profound symbol of the days when we carried out the arduous struggle together in the same trench with the spirit of sharing weal and woe and creating heroic deeds together, including the building of the historic Ho Chi Minh Trail which was one of the important factors leading the historic victory of Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam, have been deeply imbedded in our hearts.

Over the past 15 years, our two parties and peoples have done everything within our power to consolidate and strengthen the special solidarity and friendship between Vietnam and Laos. This is an extremely valuable tradition and a priceless heritage left behind for us and the future generations by Uncle Ho Chi Minh. This is the pride of the two parties and people. The Mekong River may run dry and the Truong Son Range may wear away, but the special Vietnamese- Lao solidarity and friendship will last forever.

On this auspicious occasion, we would like to express our sincere and profound gratitude toward the LPRP, the LPDR, and the fraternal multiethnic Lao people for consistently rendering sincere and invaluable assistance and support to the Vietnamese revolution. As the world situation is changing in a confusing manner at present, the CPV, the SRV, and the Vietnamese people, on our part, following the teachings of the great Uncle Ho Chi Minh, will remain steadfast in safeguarding the special Vietnamese-Lao solidarity and friendship as if we were safeguarding the pupil of our eyes. We are determined to contribute together with you, comrades, to incessantly develop relations on the basis of respect for each other's independence, self-determination, and sovereignty; and enhance the tradition of mutual assistance, equality, and mutual benefits. At the same time, we will strive to renovate the essence, method, and mechanism of our cooperation by attaching importance to its substance, quality, and efficiency.

Comrades and friends: On behalf of the CPV and the entire Vietnamese people, we wish the Fifth Congress of the LPRP glorious success. We firmly believe that the path of building and developing the popular democratic system and the transformation of the natural and semi-natural economy into the goods economy with various sectors and in various forms of ownership operating within the laws and under the macromanagement of the people's democratic state under the LPRP leadership will inject new strength and strong development into the socioeconomic life of Laos. The resolution which will be adopted at the Fifth Congress will become a torch illuminating the path for an encouragement to the multiethnic Lao people under the correct, clear-sighted, and talented leadership of the LPRP, to march forward with firm steps so as to triumphantly implement the various historic duties outlined at this congress, securely safeguarding the national independence, and successfully fulfilling the task of building Laos into a country with peace, independence, unification, democracy, and prosperity.

Long live the majestic and honorable LPRP!

Long live the heroic multiethnic Lao people!

May the special relations, solidarity, and friendship between the parties, states, and peoples of Vietnam and Laos remain beautiful and last forever!

May the Fifth Congress of the LPRP attain brilliant success!

Thank you.

Editorial on National Defense, Public Security

BK0904133091 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0430 GMT 1 Apr 91

[Editorial: "Organize the Effective Implementation of the Direction and Task of National Defense and Maintenance of Public Security in the New Era"]

[Text] During the third Army-wide congress of party cadres in early March, delegates studied and assessed the report of the National Defense Ministry on the tasks of national defense and maintenance of public security in the past five years, and unanimously ratified the achievements and victories won by the Army in these fields. In other words, we have successfully defended our national sovereignty and terrritorial integrity, fundamentally maintained tranquillity, and foiled the dark schemes of the imperialists and reactionary forces in a timely manner. In combining our major task of national defense with economic development, our armed forces have upgraded their efficiency and maintained combat readiness. The rank and file of party cadres and members have undergone training and study courses. We have been doing well with grass-roots development—which is part of the task of national defense.

However, we still have shortcomings which we must quickly eliminate. For example, some people have been behaving in ways which impair the good principles, traditions, and image of the People's Army. They treat public facilities and collective property improperly. A number of party cadres and members still adhere to superstitious beliefs, fail to make the distinction between friends and enemies, pursue a conservative style of work, lack creativity, practice bureaucratism, and lack democracy. These phenomena have created negative repurcussions on the party's leadership in our armed forces in the past five years.

In the face of the confusing world situation, the imperialists have not yet discarded their subversive schemes designed to completely destroy us through all ways and means. This is the target of our crucial and long-term struggle. Our revolutionary tasks have reached a new turning point. The destination of our party's struggle is to resolutely safeguard and defend, and construct the country. This is our highest goal. For this reason, the direction of the tasks of national defense and maintenance of public security in the new era must be firmly based on some of the instructions issued by the party Central Committee and our National Defense Ministry. We must mobilize the entire people to take part in national defense and intensify our propaganda campaigns to mobilize the people of all strata and tribes to take part in the task of national defense. First of all, we must adhere to the following piece of advice: Rely on the people because they are the ones who actually implement the lines and policies laid down by the party and state. Therefore, those who are in charge of grass-roots construction must firmly adhere to the fact that the task of national defense is everyone's duty and obligation. The entire population must be mobilized to assist the armed forces and stand on the front line. Second, we must be imbued with the overall guidance which stipulates that the tasks of economic, cultural, and social development and national defense must be carried out simultaneously. In particular, the task of national defense and maintenance of public security must be aimed at creating the overall strength at all localities. For example, mass organziations at the grass-roots level must be vigilant and aware of the significance of the task of national defense. We must vigorously improve the quality of local armed forces, militia-guerrilla forces, and self-defense units; uphold the combat spirit and principle of class consciousness; be firmly loyal and faithful to the party and country; possess sufficient military knowledge; and organize more military training for students from the primary school level upward. Third, we must be imbued with the guidance from the party to increase and strengthen our militant alliance with Vietnam and Cambodia. We must convince our cadres, combatants in the armed forces, and people of the significance of the traditional special solidarity between the three Indochinese nations in their common struggle against the imperialist aggression in the past and national defense and construction at the present for the benefit of independence and freedom of our three Indochinese countries. This is the direction and guidance of the party concerning the tasks of national defense and maintenance of public security in the new era. In this connection, an important point is that we must create new overall quality of our regional forces, build strategic bases in some areas, and continue to enthusiastically develop and strengthen the grass-roots in accordance with the four-point guidance prescribed in Resolution No. 51 of the party Central Committee. We must be imbued with and organize the implementation of the instruction of General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihan to the armed forces to the effect that regular armed forces are a steel boat and regional armed forces are strategic forces. In improving the armed forces, we must attach significance to their quality and develop and promote their good traditions. Our armed forces can learn from the successes and victories we have accomplished so that they will continue to march firmly forward, ready to carry out the tasks of national defense and maintenance of public security in the new era.

Philippines

Manglapus Views 'Delayed' U.S. Response on Bases

HK1004062991 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] The Philippine Government expressed impatience over the delayed response of the United States Government on the military bases issue, specifically the unresolved issues of the duration and compensation of the U.S. military facilities in the country. This was the reaction of Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus when he finally received an official response from the U.S. Government regarding his 12 March letter. In his letter to U.S. special negotiator Richard Armitage, he reiterated the Philippine Government's position on annual, fixed compensation of $825 million and the seven-year phaseout period of the bases. Secretary Manglapus said a long time elapsed before the United States replied to the letter, and this is why a new treaty cannot yet be drafted.

It will be recalled that in the Philippine-American Cooperation Talk [PACT], the two panels differed on the compensation and duration issues. According to Secretary Manglapus, Armitage will come to finalize the provisions contained in the PACT which will pave the way for a new treaty.

Ramos on Bombings in Manila, Aguirre's Resignation

HK0904134291 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 Apr 91

[By Joe Taruc and Eloi Aquino]

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos Said that the police and military will closely investigate all angles of the bombings in Metro Manila. He also negated the need to declare a red alert.

In an ambush interview following a wreath offering at the heroes' grave at Fort Bonifacio, Ramos said that Aguirre's resignation will not affect any misunderstanding within the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines], if ever there was any. According to Ramos, the incidents in the military in 1986 that resulted in the EDSA [Epifanio Delos Santos Avenue] people's power revolt are different from the incidents surrounding Major General Lisandro Abadia's appointment by President Aquino as new chief of staff. Ramos explained that the circumstances, personalities, reasons, and steps taken by the principals are different. Ramos added that he has not yet received additional reports regarding the bombings but he assured that the military and police will closely study all angles.

[Begin Ramos recording in English, in progress] ...investigated. I don't think the authorities doing this so far have anything ready to report. But I want to assure you that every lead, every possible stone is going to be looked into; and nothing will be left unturned. [end recording]

Also, Ramos stated that there is no need to declare a red alert because there is no reason for the public to panic or be alarmed.

[Begin Ramos recording in English] No, no, no. There is no need. There is no need to be alarmed unduly. No cause to panic. That's why you're all here, enjoying this peaceful observance of Heroes Day. [end recording]

Enrile: Ramos Should Resign Over Abadia Issue

HK1004065391 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 10 Apr 91 pp 1, 10

[By Rey Sinfuego]

[Text] Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, Senate Minority floor leader, said yesterday Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos should resign if it is true that President Aquino did not consult him on the appointment of Maj. Gen. Lisandro Abadia as the new chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

Enrile said he foresees deeper division in the armed forces, adding that Abadia is not fully accepted by the higher echelon of the military and, therefore, "he will be an ineffective AFP chief of staff." He said that even the AFP young officers resented the President's decision because it "upsets their career."

Enrile said it is possible that Prosident Aquino did not consult Ramos on the appointment of Abadia, stressing that as defense secretary, Ramos has the "sole responsibility" of recommending to the President military promotions and, more so, the appointment of the AFP chief of staff.

Malacanang announced the selection of Abadia as the successor of Gen. Rodolfo Biazon while Ramos was on a seven-day official trip to Japan. The appointment was announced last Saturday, a day before Ramos arrived from Tokyo.

Enrile recalled that when he was the defense chief during the past regime, then President Marcos "had at least consulted me and did not simply appoint Gen. Fabian Ver as the AFP chief of staff." He said, however, that he will not block the confirmation of Abadia at the Commission on Appointment. He added, however, that he will have to review thoroughly the qualifications of Abadia who, prior to his appointment, was the commanding general of the Philippine Army (PA).

Abadia served in Vietnam and was assigned as an Army brigade commander for three months prior to his appointment as AFP deputy chief of staff for operations (J-3), considered as a "swivel chair" assignment at the AFP general headquarters in Camp AGuinaldo.

Abadia's contribution to the efforts to quell the Dec. 1-7, 1989 failed coup gained him the recognition as a loyal constitutionalist officer. His appointment prompted Maj. Gen. Alexander Aguirre to submit his irrevocable resignation from the post of AFP deputy chief of staff, the third highest post in the military organization.

Ramos Requests Probe on 'Politicking' in Military

HK1004063991 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 10 Apr 91 p 14

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos asked yesterday the Office of the President to investigate the alleged politicking in the military for top positions in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

Ramos said that while the allegation was the personal opinion of Maj Gen Alexander Aguirre who resigned as Armed Forces deputy chief of staff, the matter should be looked into by the Office of the President.

Aguirre resigned after refusing to accept the "wisdom" of President Aquino's decision to name Army chief Maj Gen Lisandro Abadia as the next Armed Forces chief of staff.

Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos refused to comment on Ramos' proposal for the Office of the President to investigate the alleged politicking. "Let's not talk about politics, 1992," Orbos said. Reports said that Orbos had a hand in choosing Abadia over other more senior military officers. He did not confirm this.

Meanwhile, former Presidential adviser on military affairs Mariano Adalem defended President Aquino's decision to appoint Abadia, saying that she considered Abadia's performance. He was principal planner and executor of various AFP counterinsurgency programs such as the "Lambat Bitag" [Net Trap] and he was in the defense of the Aquino administration during the 1989 coup, Adalem claimed. President Aquino considered previous experiences, not only the ability to command but also to preside over problems and ability to unite the AFP, he said.

Maj Gen Gerardo Protacio, Philippine Air Force (PAF) chief, met with President Aquino yesterday afternoon to discuss his possible replacement at the PAF. He could not say whether Brig Gen Loven Abadia, PAF chief of operations, a brother of the new Armed Forces chief, would be appointed.

LDP Supports Abadia's Nomination as AFP Chief

HK1004111791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 10 Apr 91

[By Jennifer Postigo]

[Text] The Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino [LDP—Struggle of Philippine Democrats] supports Major General Lisandro Abadia's nomination as the new Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] chief of staff. This was announced by Congressman Leonardo Guerrero, who also said that when the voting at the Commission on Appointments comes, the LDP members will certainly support Abadia's confirmation. Guerrero added that although Liberal Party [LP] members plan to block the confirmation of Abadia's appointment, allegedly because he is a devisive factor in the military, it will not matter. He said that the Liberal Party members have no capability to block the confirmation of General Abadia's nomination at the Commission on Appointments because there are only a few of them. He said that Congresswoman Lorna Verano Yap's earlier statement regarding the LP's opposition to Abadia's nomination as the incoming chief of staff and its efforts to block the appointment was just an uproar. Some observers foresee a heated fight between LP and LDP members at the Commission on Appointments when they deliberate on General Lisandro Abadia's nomination.

Program Interviews Aquino on Achievements, Future

HK0804093191 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1300 GMT 7 Apr 91

[Interview with President Corazon C. Aquino by former Press Secretary Teodoro Benigno on "Ask the President" program; date, place not given—live or recorded in English; italicized passages in Tagalog]

[Excerpts] [Benigno] Good evening, Mrs President. It is nice to be back here after an absence of about 2 years and 8 months and I certainly welcome this treat of having a one-on-one interview with you on TV. It is not for "Option" [Benigno's own public affairs program], though, Mrs President.

[Aquino] Hello, Teddy. It is good to have you back and you are right. When you asked me to appear in "Option," I felt that it might be misunderstood by some because you have announced that it was only for presidential hopefuls. I do not consider myself as a presidential hopeful but I am already a president.

[Benigno] Let me hunker down to business immediately, Mrs President.

My first question is this: Now that you can look back more than five years into your job, with all these heartaches and all these burdens, was it well worth it, or do you have any regrets about having decided to run for the presidency in the 1986 snap elections?

[Aquino] No, there have been no regrets. Perhaps some disappointments at times but what I set out to do, I think I have accomplished and when I was asked to run for president, it was primarily with the idea of restoring democracy and, certainly, we have done that.

[Benigno] What is the hardest job of being president? Is it media criticism? Is it the nerve-wracking job of making political decisions? Is it the fact that some of the proteges are guilty of graft and ingratitude because you helped them to be elected? What are the really difficult things about being president?

[Aquino] Well, being president is certainly a difficult job. Being responsible for more than 60 million Filipinos certainly is an overwhelming task. However, I do not like to think about the difficulties. I prefer to think about the accomplishments and also, more importantly, I prefer to think of what the people have been doing for me, especially, and for our country. So I like to think of things positively. You know, many of my critics always talk about the half empty glass. Let us talk about the half full glass.

[Benigno] That is correct. On the other hand, Mrs President, there must be some rewards and some fulfillments in being chief of state.

[Aquino] Oh, certainly. Well, I get tremendous fulfillment everytime we are able to help the people improve their lives. I like to, well, in fact, I am very proud of what Ka [Comrade] Dante, you know Bernabe Buscayno, has done for himself and for 10,000 farmers in his cooperative. And this is replicated throughout the country. Land Bank has helped so many of the farmers' cooperatives. So each time a report comes to me saying that we have improved the lives of these countrymen of ours, that gives me tremendous fulfillment. And then, of course, there are the perks. I think I will miss the perks. Certainly, transportation is never a problem. And when...

[Benigno] Traffic is never a problem?

[Aquino] Traffic is... except for a few occasions, but certainly, especially when I visit other countries where you are really given the grand treatment, that is something that really makes me happy and proud that I am president of the Philippines.

[Benigno] That will always be in your memorabilia. My next question, Mrs President, is: Looking back at the swirl of events during the last five years, would you have done things differently? Were there any missed opportunities that you might have done in a different way?

[Aquino] Well, but then I could not have known then what I know now, so I suppose it would be unfair to me to say that I could have done things better because what I know now certainly was not very evident then. But anyway, I would like to say again certainly, I have tried my very best every step of the way and always there was sincerity in my heart in doing these things.

[Benigno] Now that you have reached the homestretch of your six-year tenure, Mrs President, on a scale of 1 to 10, when you examine everything, how would you rate your performance?

[Aquino] Teddy, I would like to wait until the very end of my term. Anyway, that will be the final grade and, because also, I am hoping that many good things will be happening during this last year, so I would like to defer my answer to that.

[Benigno] But you did grade yourself during a previous interview...

[Aquino] Well, that was in the beginning.

[Benigno] You graded yourself 7 or 8, I think.

[Aquino] That was in the beginning and I guess it was a standard question. But I feel, anyway, it is just a year to go and so, as I say, I do expect many good things happening during this last year so that will have to up the average.

[Benigno] Mrs President, when posterity should knock at your door and ask you: What are your three, four, or five outstanding achievements, what would be your reply?

[Aquino] Well, first and foremost, I take pride in the fact that, with the help of the Filipino people, we were able to restore democracy; not only to restore it, but to preserve it in spite of the attacks from the right and left and, furthermore, to be able to strengthen that democracy. Secondly, I think that under my administration, we have been able to instill in the Filipino his sense of identity, his sense of pride in being Filipino, because I remember when we were still living in exile, some of our countrymen then were even ashamed to admit they were Filipinos. But now you go anywhere in the world, and when you say you are Filipino, then they are very proud to know you and to acknowledge the fact that you have been able to accomplish much.

Next, I would like to be remembered for people empowerment. The fact that I was installed in office by people power, I feel, gives me the obligation and responsibility to empower the people. That is why I launched Kabisig [Partnership] last year because I would like to institutionalize people empowerment.

Then, the economic turnaround. While some of my critics will say: Well, things really have not improved that much, but when you look back and when you remember that the economy when I took over was certainly in a shambles, then there is a lot to be proud of that there has been an economic turnaround. Then, of course, what we have done in the matter of free secondary education. I think those could be some of my most outstanding accomplishments.

[Benigno] Mrs President, when you look at events, the swirl of events, and we all look back, I can almost hear the din of Cory, Cory, Cory. You had a stratospheric rating then of about 86 percent, but somewhat through the passing of time, which has happened to all presidents, your approval rating began to go down, and some surveys say that your rating is now 40 percent or below. What do you attribute this to and do you feel very badly about it, Mrs President?

[Aquino] Yes, of course I feel badly about it. One would like to have a very high approval rating. However, in view of the enormous problems that we have had—and certainly not all of them attributable to me—I think when people are not doing well or they are not experiencing comfort, then they have to blame somebody. And certainly, since I am the president, I am responsible in a way, and in a great way, so this would account for the loss of popularity.

[Benigno] Mrs President, let me get to a favorite bone of contention of some of your critics. They say you are a weak and indecisive president, that it takes you a long time to make decisions, and that you somehow used power in a very sparing way. How do you react to those kind of observations, Mrs President?

[Aquino] Well, again, of course, that hurts. But I would like to remind my critics that early on in my administration, first of all, I abolished the Batasan [National Assembly]. Now is that the work of a weak president? When you are faced with having to remove from office people who are very close to you, who have certainly been very helpful to you, but when one is president, one thinks beyond friendship. One thinks of the greater national interest. So, first, I abolished the Batasan. Secondly, in spite of the advice of certain people, I appointed a constitutional commission instead of having an elective constitutional body. Again, at that time, I knew it was not a popular decision. However, I was very anxious that we have a constitution in the soonest possible time and a constitution that will be presented to the people to be ratified by the people.

Now, when people tell me that I am weak and indecisive, maybe they compare me to my predecessor who was of course an authoritarian, and when democracy was no longer in existence and was a forgotten thing. Maybe our people are just adjusting to what democracy is all about, to what due process is all about.

But I do not really mind that much now being called weak and indecisive, because I understand from magazines that I have read, and even from foreign journals, that President Bush has also been called weak and indecisive. Even President Gorbachev has been called weak and indecisive. So I am in good company.

[Benigno] Mrs President, the charge has also been made again by your critics that there is more graft and corruption in your government than there was in the government of Ferdinand Marcos. Of course, you yourself are absolved from any charge. They consider you absolutely honest and sincere, but they say that a new oligarchy, economic and political, has risen and this kind of oligarchy is now enriching itself. What is your comment on this?

[Aquino] Well, of course, I deny it vehemently. First of all, let us compare the situation in so far as GFI's [government financial institutions] are concerned under the previous administration and under the Aquino administration.

As you know, when we assumed office, the DBP [Development Bank of the Philippines] and the PNB [Philippine National Bank] really had to be rehabilitated. We had to build them up because these institutions were really ravaged under the previous administration. You hear of behest loans. And I would like to say this again: Not once during the five years that I have been president have I authorized any behest loans. And that is why PNB and DBP have such huge profits and why PNB shares are selling so very well in the stock market. So you see this big difference where the head of government is herself clean, naturally, that is something to be very proud. A moral ascendancy so to speak. Under the previous administration, I suppose, when you see your leader engaging in all of this graft and corruption, then you felt: Well, if he does it, why not me? So at least, I would like to believe that in the highest level of government, we do not have graft and corruption. But let me also point out that I inherited this government bureaucracy. It is not as if when I assumed office, I removed everybody and put in a new bureaucracy. No, it was not that.

And in fairness also to the bureaucracy, the great majority of them are certainly very good, hardworking government employees. And I hope that in time, as the economy improves and as we are able to give better salaries to government employees, then the temptation to do things that are violative of the law will be eliminated. But everything takes time, and you know, this sickness that has been with us did not just occur under my administration. So, and we know—neither one of us is a doctor—but we know when we have a serious illness, it takes time to remedy the situation, but certainly, there is a very strong resolve on my part, on the part of Cabinet members, to see that graft and corruption, if not eliminated, at least are considerably reduced. And then of course we have the help of the people like you in media to call our attention to any, well....

[Benigno] I do not think we are lacking on that.

[Aquino] Yes, but come out with more evidence. It is easy to be attacking and to be criticizing, but it would help us very much, instead of being adversarial, you could be helping us by supporting us and telling us exactly: Look, these are the people you should investigate because we have this kind of evidence against them.

[Benigno] Now getting back to the political situation, Mrs President, *the political situation is on fire* because everybody seems to be looking at the 1992 elections. So my question is: Are you going to endorse anybody for 1992? And is it true you are choosing between Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos and Executive Secretary Oscar Orbos?

[Aquino] *It is true, Teddy, that the situation is heating up, but I did say that if my endorsement is demanded ... after all, they might not want my endorsement. But from now until the end of this year, I think when the new year begins, I will really observe the movements of our so-called presidential hopefuls and I will consult with our people and the different sectors to find out their opinions, to find out who they think is best for the country.*

[Benigno] *When will you announce your choice? Do you have a deadline?*

[Aquino] *I think that maybe in January because I found that* the earliest possible time for conventions to be held will be on December 28. I mean this is under the present law. I do not know if Congress will come up with some changes in the election code. But as of now, I have been told that it will be December 28; that will be the earliest. So I imagine that January will be a good day. And probably on my birthday. *Maybe I will do just that.*

[Benigno] *When is your birthday? I have forgotten about it.*

[Aquino] *My gosh, Teddy, all the time we have been together. It is January 25.*

[Benigno] *So you will announce your endorsement then?*

[Aquino] *Perhaps. That is what I am thinking now. But as I have said, only if my endorsement is demanded. If not, then I will not say anything on the subject.*

[Benigno] Regarding the political opposition, meaning Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, Vice President Salvador Laurel, and your first cousin Danding Cojuangco, do you think any one of them can win the elections of 1992 if they should, for example, present one single candidate?

[Aquino] Of course, I am very glad that they are very interested also in participating in the elections of next year because that goes to show that they believe in this democratic government of ours and that they believe that they have a good chance, *because as you remember,* *Teddy, no one wanted to run against Marcos because they were afraid that everything was on the side of Marcos.* But now, the fact that many have shown tremendous interest in the forthcoming elections, I think it is a good sign that people believe that the elections will be fair, that the elections could be honest. And this is what I am working very hard for.

[Benigno] Let us talk about your cousin Danding Cojuangco. It is known that he was the closest crony of Mr Marcos and that his name appears prominently of those who are accused of amassing unexplained wealth. Does your government intend to file court charges against him in the future or the present?

[Aquino] Actually, the PCGG [Presidential Commission on Good Government] and the solicitor general have been working hard on this.

[Benigno] *So, a decision is forthcoming?*

[Aquino] *Yes, very likely because the investigation is still going on.*

[Benigno] Let us talk about your younger brother, Congressman Peping Cojuangco. Many are saying that he has a very strong influence on you and that he is the power behind you and that it will be him, with your approval, who will choose the standard bearer for the presidency of the LDP [Struggle of Philippine Democrats]. *Why does he have such a strong influence on you?*

[Aquino] *First of all, you are right, he is younger than me. You know with us Filipinos, the younger siblings are often being ordered around.* Now I would like to say also that he has been of tremendous help to me because as you know, we have to deal with Congress, and so I have asked for his help in getting bills approved. Of course, I asked the speaker also but it helps to have a brother who is in Congress and who can appeal to his colleagues there. But I think insofar as his influence is concerned, that has been just so exaggerated, and I think you have known me long enough, Teddy. Perhaps, and you know, it is Ninoy more than anybody else who had that kind of influence on me.

[Benigno] Yes, I know that. Let us talk about a favorite subject, Mrs President, Imelda Marcos. And she has been making a lot of noise these past so many days, even the possibility that she might run for the presidency in 1992. And people are saying that if she runs, she will change your mind. And so we will have a battle royal of the widows, or the mother of all elections. /What is your reaction to this?/

[Aquino] First of all, Teddy, when you say favorite subject, I guess, that is your favorite subject. Let us just clarify that.

Certainly, if she will opt to run in the next elections, that is her right so long as she conforms to the law. Perhaps you were referring to what Vice President Laurel was saying that if Imelda runs, then probably I will also run. I think that is a very wrong premise. When I ran for the snap elections, it was primarily for the purpose of removing the dictatorship and restoring democracy. Now that we have restored democracy, and I have said it time and again, I am not running for reelection. And not even an Imelda can make me decide to run again.

[Benigno] I think they have been wanting to hear that from you, Mrs President.

Anyway, what is the latest on the case of Imelda Marcos, insofar as the charges against her are concerned? Would you eventually allow her to come back here and face charges and get an indictment against her as provided by the Swiss courts?

[Aquino] As you know, referring to the Swiss courts, last December they said that the 350 million dollars would only be awarded to the Philippine Government if they would file criminal charges against Imelda Marcos. Now, because the decision was in Swiss, German and, I think, in French, it took a lot of time before we got a translation. In fact, PCGG chairman Dave Castro told me that they only got the translation of the written decision in March. Now, there are some points we would like clarified and so I have instructed the solicitor general to go to Switzerland and to inquire on the finer points, on what exactly they meant by criminal charges.

In the meantime, the PCGG of course is preparing for the eventuality that we will have to file those charges before the deadline. And so while we are waiting for clarifications from the Swiss courts, we are preparing. And once it is absolutely ascertained that we do have to file those criminal charges and the deadline is also said to be December, then it will be happening before that time when we will be filing the charges. And certainly under our laws, anybody has the right to be present when a criminal case has been filed against such person.

[Benigno] Mrs President, how about the remains of Mr Ferdinand Marcos? Will you allow Imelda to bring them back and allow his remains to be buried in his hometown of Batac, Ilocos Norte, where they certainly belong?

[Aquino] Well, that is a different matter altogether. So we will again study it depending on the situation in the country.

[Benigno] Mrs President, let us switch to the issue of U.S. military bases. I understand that in several weeks' time, a new treaty could be concluded between the Philippines and the United States. Are you confident that the Senate will ratify this treaty or what do you think might happen, Mrs President?

[Aquino] Certainly we are of course hoping that the Senate will ratify whatever treaty we will be signing with the United States. There is still a few items to be worked out, in particular the matter of compensation. As you know, I had sent Secretary Estanislao to Washington to present other options so that we could narrow the gap between what the Philippine Government is asking for and what the United States has offered as the compensation package.

[Benigno] But the Senate of course made a number of noises that it may not ratify the treaty. So this raises the question of the consultation process that you plan to undertake with the citizenry in case.... Are you confident that such a consultation will produce a yes result in favor of a new treaty?

[Aquino] Well, certainly what we have been trying to do insofar as the bases are concerned is to determine for our people what we believe to be the national interest. And it is also our duty to inform the people the contents of that treaty, if ever the treaty will be finally signed. And as we present all of the details and explain to the people what the treaty is all about, then hopefully they will be able to convey their sentiments to the Senate. I think this is important that we help in conveying the sentiments of the people to the senators.

[Benigno] And supposing the result of the consultation is yes, and maybe a resounding yes, do you feel the Senate will bow to the will of the people in consultation?

[Aquino] Normally, the officials of government have to listen to the people. After all, we are serving the people and we should be consulting with them and finding from them whether they agree or disagree with the decisions that we have made.

[Benigno] Mrs President, switching to other subjects. It bothers me that the October-November survey of the Social Weather Station had an alarming finding to the effect that 45 percent of the citizenry no longer thinks that democracy is viable. This has nothing to do with you, Mrs President. And only 15 percent think that democracy is viable; 40 percent had no opinion. Does this finding worry you Mrs President?

[Aquino] You were saying that was in October and November, so it has been quite some time. And October, November were really very difficult times especially where the economy was concerned. Very recently, in fact last February and March, a survey was also conducted—I think it was the Gallup Poll along with Arrow—and they did not ask about democracy, but they asked the people if they believe that the economy would improve. And surprisingly, a great number said they believe that life would certainly be better in the next quarter and probably in the next semester.

[Benigno] Where is that source? Why do people believe now that the economy is picking up? What have you done, Mrs President?

[Aquino] Primarily, it is because of the Gulf war. In October and November there was so much uncertainty. After the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, I think all of us, not only Filipinos but everybody throughout the world, was thinking what was going to happen next. And then once war did commence, the shooting war commenced and the fact that it was able to be accomplished in a relatively short period—and what was even better, with relatively few casualties—and what happened, instead of the oil prices shooting up, they did come down. And this was certainly a very welcome development to all oil importing countries and especially the Philippines.

[Benigno] You did not resort to any of your contingency plans.

[Aquino] Well, we had prepared for all kinds of contingencies and, in particular, we were most concerned that the Filipino people will have enough food to eat.

[Benigno] I would like to get a very human element of leadership, Mrs President. Ex-Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain admitted during an interview that there were times when she was so crestfallen with the burdens of her job that she would burst into tears in the privacy of her room. And even Prime Minister Churchill at times also wept. In your case, Mrs President, was your cross ever so heavy that you also shed tears?

[Aquino] Oh yes, but I did not shed tears. I prayed, in private. I prayed and I prayed very hard. But of course, I was feeling so much sadness and my heart was feeling so heavy, but it is in moments like this when I just turn to God and to really pray with all my heart. But maybe Teddy, you are not such a believer as I am, but since I have been through so many crises, I have always found much consolation in addressing myself to God, after I have done everything possible.

[Benigno] Mrs President, I never went to church so much and prayed so much as when I worked under you.

[Aquino] Yes, I really believe that. [passage omitted]

[Benigno] Talking about the changes, how has the presidency changed you Mrs President? You are no longer the same Cory Aquino I used to know six, seven years ago. *You have changed.*

[Aquino] *Really?* Certainly I feel more confident. It is no longer shy Cory, I think. I mean I could no longer be thought of as being Ninoy's shadow or somebody else's creation. I am very grateful certainly for the tremendous opportunity given to me by the Filipino people to serve them, and I hope they know that I have served them well.

[Benigno] Mrs President, now that you have accumulated the experience and the knowledge of more that five years in the presidency, is there any particular advice that you may want to transmit to the next president of the Philippine Republic?

[Aquino] Well, you know Teddy, I have always been kidded about my unsolicited advice. I think I will just wait for whoever will be the next president and also wait to see if my advice will be solicited.

[Benigno] Certainly you must have some advice.

[Aquino] I think it would be premature for me to be giving advice. In the first place, we do not even know who is going to be president and, as I said, it would be presumptuous of me to be giving advice when it is not being sought.

[Benigno] Turning around a little, you have a little more than one year left in your tenure. Do you have any particular decisions or plans or programs that might have a dramatic effect before you finally wind down your six-year term in 1992?

[Aquino] Well, last year I had already instructed all Cabinet members to fast-track the existing programs and projects and also for them to concentrate on the projects that are do-able. Since we have a very short time left, it was important for me that the Cabinet members concentrate principally on the do-able items. And so this is what we have done. If you notice, like in the case of the Department of Public Works and Highways, Secretary de Jesus very clearly announced and enunciated that these are the projects that will be finished, like the Ortigas-Edsa [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] interchange will be finished by February of next year. So these are what we are rushing. In the meantime, I am also wanting to institutionalize the Kabisig concept of government in the private sector, joining hands, having partnership, and strengthening this participatory democracy that we have now.

[Benigno] Mrs President, to cap this very interesting one-on-one interview, would you have a last message to give to the Filipino people?

[Aquino] Maybe not to the Filipino people. I do have my Magtanong sa Pangulo [Ask the President] every week. But let me tell you, Teddy, that I certainly enjoyed this interview. It is not often that I enjoy interviews, but certainly it is good to have this dialogue with you. And perhaps we could do this again, depending on whether the people like it or not.

So, let me just reiterate what I said earlier, that perhaps media in particular could be giving more support to government for the sake of our people. And I think on the part of government, we will also try our best to work more closely with the members of media and perhaps you can help us there.

[Benigno] Thank you very much, Mrs President. It was a pleasure.

[Aquino] Well, thank you, Teddy and au revoir.

Aquino Appoints New Military Affairs Adviser

HK1004062591 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 10 Apr 91 p 6

[Text] President Aquino has appointed the former flag officer of the Philippine Navy to be her new adviser on military affairs replacing retired Maj Gen Mariano Adalem.

The new presidential adviser, Rear Admiral Carlito Cunanan, assumed his post last March 16 and is said to have taken part in the deliberations for the selection of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff.

Adalem, the former army chief, resigned to work full time as operating officer of the Philippine Amusements and Gaming Corp, where he was board director before joining Mrs Aquino's Cabinet last year, Assistant Press Secretary Ma Lourdes Siytangco said. Cunanan, according to Palace sources, was among those who concurred in the appointment of army chief Maj Gen Lisandro Abadia as the new AFP chief staff to replace Gen Rodolfo Biazon. Abadia's appointment led to the resignation of Maj Gen Alexander Aguirre as AFP duty chief of staff. Aguirre complained he had been bypassed by Mrs Aquino.

Palace officials said Cunanan had expected the complaint from Aguirre and told Mrs Aquino the deputy chief of staff might resign his post. Nevertheless, Palace officials said Cunanan backed Abadia's appointment, arguing that seniority is not the sole criterion for the chief of staff.

As adviser for military affairs, Cunanan will review all candidates for military promotions. He will also have to work for consultations with the enlisted personnel and bring the commander-in-chief closer to the officialdom as well as the rank and file.

General Biazon Announces Military Appointments

HK0904140291 Manila DWIZ Radio News 882 in Tagalog 0400 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Outgoing Chief of Staff General Rodolfo Biazon formally appointed Philippine Navy Vice Commander Commodore Proceso Fernandez to fill the post vacated by General Alexander Aguirre, former Armed Forces of the Philippines deputy chief of staff. In this connection, Biazon announced the appointments of Brigadier General Arturo Enrile, superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy [PMA], as the new Philippine Army chief, and Commodore Virgilio Marcelo, former commander of Camp Aguinaldo, as the new PMA superintendent. Biazon expressed sadness over General Aguirre's resignation, but assured that the military will remain stable even after Aguirre's resignation.

Military Officers Interviewed on State of Army

HK0804154191 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in English 1440 GMT 19 Mar 91

[Interview program "Viewpoint" hosted by Ricardo Puno with Brigadier General Romulo Yap, Major General Lisandro Abadia, Colonel Raul Urgello, Lieutenant Colonel Ernesto Carolina, and Captain Arturo Ortiz on the state of the Philippine Army—live]

[Excerpts] [Puno] Good evening friends and welcome once again to "Viewpoint." If most of you have been watching the media coverage of the Gulf war, you are probably asking yourselves questions about the Philippine Armed Forces. Some people have been asking whether the armed forces, particularly the Army, would be in a position capable of defending this country against external aggression. And more important than that, how really is the counterinsurgency fight going on here in the Philippines with talk about budget cuts and even with talk about disunity within the Armed Forces of the Philippines? How prepared are the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP], particularly the Army which wants to call itself the premier service in the Armed Forces of the Philippines. I don't know if the other services are going to agree with that. But anyway, let us give them that because this Friday, the Army is going to celebrate its 94th anniversary. It is a good time to ask the Army what it is up to and what is up with the Army in terms of its future planning.

So for our guests this evening, I think we have gathered a very, very interesting group. Two of the people are out there in the field. I would like to get the perspective not only from headquarters but also what is going on out there in the battlefields.

Let me introduce them to you. From my right, first of all, we have Brig Gen Romulo Yap, he is the commanding general [CG] of the 8th Infantry Division which is based in Catarman, Samar. He is from the UP [University of the Philippines] class of 1960 and he was not a PMA [Philippine Military Academy] graduate. That is one of the points we are going to talk about this evening. He is a candidate for a masters in management from Philippine Christian University. Next to him we have the CG of the Philippine Army, Major Gen Lisandro Abadia. He is from PMA class '62. He graduated magna cum laude. He also has a master's degree in public and business management from UP and La Salle. And we have Colonel Raul Urgello. He is the commanding officer of the 301st Infantry Brigade which is based in Murcia, Negros Occidental. He belongs to PMA class '66. And we have Lt Col Ernesto Carolina. He is the commanding officer of the 78th Infantry Battalion which is also based in Negros Occidental, in Calatrava, Negros Occidental. He belongs to PMA class '70 and he has an MA in Economics from the Center for Research and Communications, or CRC. He got that in 1990. And finally, we have an interesting gentleman. He is the latest awardee of the medal of valour which is this nation's highest award for bravery. He is Captain Arturo Ortiz, commanding officer of the 606th Special Forces Company which is based in Negros Occidental. He belongs to PMA class '79. So we have got the whole spectrum, from the very, very highest to the people out there in the field. [passage omitted]

Gen Abadia, you have been the CG of the Army for a little less than 3 months but already you are saying that the identity and character of the Army is going to be changed into one that is more lean and compact. In fact, you are thinking of cutting down the enlisted men in the Army itself. Why is that?

[Abadia] Well, if we have solved the insurgency, there is no point in retaining a big army. That is why I am increasing the special forces because we have to maintain our presence in the outlying barangays and therefore we have to maintain the Cafgus [Civilian Armed Forces Geographical Units]. Now, if we have the special forces and the Cafgus maintaining our presence in the remote barangays, we can cut down the infantry battalions and we can retrain to conventional warfare.

[Puno] It provokes envy [previous three words in Tagalog] when you look at all these pictures of all these foreign forces because they look tremendously well-equipped. And here in the Philippines, all we hear about are budget cuts. Is it beginning to affect the Army? Are you having problems with logistics, guns, ammunition, uniforms, shoes, etc?

[Abadia] No, not really. The requirements for a nonconventional war are not really that much. It is more, shall we say, labor intensive. So we just have to maintain our small arms. We have enough ammunition. Well, we are affected by the budget cuts in terms of mobility in the sense of our fuel being cut down. But in the Army, we have cut down 20 percent, but I have increased the budget of the field units by 5 percent. So I am cutting down the brass in headquarters.

[Puno] Okay. Let us ask Gen Yap, and if you don't mind general, we will go around the group and get the perspective of the people out in the field.

Catarman, Samar, until now, the insurgency war remains a major problem there and yet the brass here in Metro Manila is saying that the insurgency is more or less a receding threat. I think that is even the word they used about insurgency. Is that true? Can you confirm that from the field?

[Yap] Yes, the insurgency situation in Samar is receding. In fact, if we look back into our records last year, we have reduced the mass base by about 33 percent, the insurgent force by about 12 percent, and the level of activity, as far as the activity indicators are concerned, the insurgent-initiated activity has moved down to a tremendous low.

[Puno] That is not just propaganda? Because we can always be accused of saying that all of these figures are doctored.

[Yap] No, this is verified. I think the best feeler is the perception of the people themselves, when facts are substantiated by perception. Then you have both perception and facts. Our records stand.

[Puno] Okay, the soldiers under your command, are they still constantly out there on patrol, on engagements, or has even that been tapering down?

[Yap] I think the reason for all of these is because we have been moving constantly. We are not waiting for the insurgents to come and get us. It is these continuous operations that resulted in the decreasing insurgent influence and activities.

[Puno] Now, Col Urgello, Negros Occidental is also an area which is widely touted to be very, very difficult in terms of the insurgency. Can you confirm what Gen Yap is saying insofar as Negros Occidental is concerned? Is that the same experience?

[Urgello] Well, there has been a reduction if we compare this to the previous year. We have reduced the influence of the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines—New People's Army] in several barangays, especially in the north. And the activities of the CPP-NPA, comparing it to the previous year, has also gone down.

[Puno] Now, there is a different problem in that area because some people were saying that there is an active cooperation—it is not really a problem, but some people see it as a problem—an active cooperation with some civilian groups and the military there. In fact, some people are saying that the situation is so bad that the civilian groups were actually funding some of the operations of the military in that area, and that was supposed to be a commentary on the kind of difficulties that the AFP was having in terms of financing, in terms of graft and corruption. But what about now? Is there still this kind of cooperation between civilian groups and the armed forces, particularly the Army?

[Urgello] Yes, there is still that cooperation because people have experienced their lives and properties being affected directly, so there is this assistance they feel they should extend to the military. But if you are talking about the force that was created, backed up by the civilian groups in Negros, the Armed Forces have transformed what we call the special Cafgus into regular Cafgus now, effective February.

[Puno] What was the difference? I know that there has been a lot of debate about Cafgus, some of them being charged with being private armies and stuff like that, politicians' security arms. What do you mean by regular as opposed to special?

[Urgello] Well, it would be considered only on the way the special Cafgus—as they were called—they were being paid by the Sugar Development Foundation Incorporated. But the control, the armaments were under the AFP because the people there found out that they have to organize ahead of... what we can put up. Because we had to wait for the budget here. Now that we have the budget for the Cafgus and we can afford to absorb these into the Armed Forces, so these are now regularized.

[Puno] Colonel Carolina, I am now moving to the area which is getting to be quite close to the people that are alleged to be the source of disunity within the AFP—1970, '71, the early 1970's are the so-called problematic classes in the PMA, for example.

From your perspective, you do not seem to be one of the disgruntled people in the AFP. Why not? Why are you not out there complaining and asking for reform within the AFP? Or are you asking for reform within the AFP?

[Carolina] I think everybody was concerned about reforms. Up to now, reforms are still the concern of everybody. And in fact, right now, there are seminar workshops among battalion commanders and one of the things that we are taking up is assessing the internal reforms that are currently ongoing in the Armed Forces.

[Puno] Gen Abadia and I met last week in one citizens' crisis forum where certain complaints of the rebel detainees were aired. One of them was very interesting. They were complaining that the GHQ [General Headquarters] controls too much, even operational decisions. And one of the proposals was more or less giving autonomy to the tactical units so that they do not have to... I guess the complaint basically was: People were referring too much to headquarters for even operational decisions. Is this still true? You can talk? [chuckles]

[Abadia] Actually, I suppose many of these people who have been complaining have been outside for some time already. But I would know that even during the time of Gen de Villa, or even during the time of Gen Ramos when he was chief of staff, we have already started decentralization. In fact, the policy was centralized planning but decentralized operations and, during the time of Gen de Villa, he was really able to decentralize a lot of things. Like, for example, the approval of procurement which was an issue at the time. During the previous military leadership, major service commanders for example, were approving only up to 50,000 pesos, but I think right now they are approving up to 1.5 million pesos. A lot of things have been decentralized also. For example, determining who is going to go to foreign schools has been left to the discretion of the division commanders. The budget, for example, right now, of the major services, has been given directly to the major services, unlike before. This used to go through GHQ. But right now, this budget goes directly to the major services.

[Puno] In Manila, we hear stories. You can confirm or deny these, General. For example, they say that when money is shipped over to the units in the field, with each level on the way of the distance it travels, the money becomes lesser and lesser. [previous six words in Tagalog] [passage omitted] Is that still the kind of situation today?

[Urgello] Not anymore. I hear about that because before I was with the office of management or the controller, so I can speak with authority about that. And we used to survey this and during the time a lot of battalion commanders would claim that really, much of the resources were being dissipated from higher headquarters. But right now, I could say, because I am a battalion commander, we have our full resources and we know exactly what we are supposed to get. And we get what we are supposed to get.

[Puno] [passage omitted] Captain Ortiz, your generation is apparently where this organization, the Young Officers Union [YOU], has been drawing its, what they claim to be their support. How do you assess this movement now? You are aware of it? I suppose they have been trying to recruit in your area, too?

[Ortiz] Actually, I have never been approached by that movement, but I have been receiving articles about the YOU movement.

[Puno] What is the feedback that you get? Is that movement still strong?

[Ortiz] I don't think so.

[Puno] No more? Okay. [passage omitted] Gen Abadia, you seem to be in favor of special operations teams as opposed to general infantry. Is that a special orientation that you are looking for?

[Abadia] We have to do this because of the nature of the conflict. To defeat the CPP-NPA-NDF [National Democratic Front], you do two things: One, you destroy the armed group. Two, you dismantle the political infrastructure. Now, you have to do both. You destroy the armed group through combat operations and you dismantle the political infrastructure through SOT [Special Operation Teams] which is a more high-ops approach.

[Puno] These are the teams who go to the people, play basketball with them, have teach-ins, something like that?

[Abadia] Partly, but the essence of a SOT is to destroy the shadow government or the shadow organization of the movement because that is a target; the armed group we deal with. If you kill an NPA and then you still have that mass base that will replace the dead NPA. So you drain the ponds, so to speak, so that the bonds of the people in the barangay is with you or the government. Because, if you only kill the NPA, you do not destroy the shadow government. Then you are just running around in circles.

[Puno] There was talk that you were in favor of resurrecting the Rangers which was apparently disbanded because of major participation of that unit or units of the Rangers in the December 1989 attempted coup. Is that true? Are they going to be reformed?

[Abadia] I have recommended to the chief of staff the reactivation of the Scout Rangers Regiment.

[Puno] What happened, incidentally, to those people who were alleged or charged to be involved? Are they in confinement, under detention?

[Abadia] Some are in confinement, but many have been released because the investigation was satisfied. Those who were involved were investigated and they underwent FTI [full trial investigation]. Those who were not heavily involved were meted administrative punishments, but those who were not involved were released.

[Puno] Of course, people are going to be asking how sure we are that once put together again, the Rangers will not be ripe for some kind of exploitation again by others later.

[Abadia] I have to be very selective of the commanders and the officers and the senior enlisted noncommissioned officers. It is going to be a mixture of the old reliable Rangers and some of the new Rangers that we are going to train.

[Puno] [passage omitted] Let me start with this question phoned in by Virgilio Santos from Mandaluyong who is a little bit sceptical about the report that the insurgency movement is already receding. He says: Why are the people in the Army saying that the insurgency is weaking? In Central Luzon, there are more NPA's emerging and there are still Hukbalahap [People's Liberation Army or Huk] that are still there and getting together.

[Abadia] Not anymore because the concentration now is in Pampanga. We have cleared Bataan. In Bataan, there used to be three battalions, but since we have stabilized the area, cleared the area so to speak, we only have one special forces company, 13 Cafgu companies, and one Army strike company. The rest of the battalions were shifted to Pampanga which is our area of concentration.

[Puno] Armed strength; because all of the time we are hearing about increasing number of NPA regulars. What is the figure now nationwide?

[Abadia] It used to be, in the beginning of 1988, it used to be 25,300. Then it plateaued at the end of 1988 to something like 23,000. Then it went down to 19,000 in 1989 and in 1990, down now to something like 17,000, and declining very fast.

[Puno] Gen Yap, a lot of people are saying that a large concentration of these regulars were in the Samar-Leyte area. What is it now? Have you put some comparative figures together?

[Yap] Presently, there are about 1,500.

[Puno] 1,500. And what was it before?

[Yap] About 1,700.

[Puno] That is a reduction of only 200. You mean there are only 1,500 NPA regulars and they are causing all these problems.

[Yap] Yes, 1,500. Even 100 men can cause a lot of trouble and you multiply that by 15 times.

[Puno] By the same token, when you reduce from 1,700 to 1,500, you are saying that this is a significant drop?

[Yap] Not only that we were able to reduce their number, but we were able to contain their activities. And what is important is that we were able to contain their ability to recruit new members, to influence more barangays, and to get more resources. And as a result, while we were not able to drastically reduce their numbers, their influence was drastically reduced.

[Puno] What do you say to people who say that you have not resolved the insurgency problem? These people are just lying back and waiting for an opportunity to surface.

[Yap] I mean this is a perception which cannot be gauged. I think the total perception of the community is most important. And of course, insurgency documents which we have got in camps that we overran will show that they have these losses in terms of personnel, ammunition, and influence. So the NPA themselves admitted that.

[Puno] Okay, Colonel Urgello. [passage omitted] I would like to ask you very candidly whether you feel that there has been any improvement in the image of the military as oppressors of the ordinary citizens, violators of human rights, in the way that the soldiers view themselves when they deal with the citizenry in the areas where they operate? Is there a difference? Are the citizens more open to you, more comfortable with you?

[Urgello] I would say so, and maybe let me cite some reasons. We have made a big change. When we were fighting the MNLF [Moro National Liberation Front], we had the draftee system. Right now, all of our soldiers are enlisted into the regular force and this in effect removed that sort of tension among the ranks. Another is we have more or less an older army and many of our soldiers are family men, responsible people, and you can feel this when you are out there in the field. Seldom do we find soldiers firing their firearms indiscriminately. It was more or less effective in Mindanao. Right now, our troops are more experienced and we have adopted the SOT concept. It has also an effect on the way our soldiers behave, not only towards the... I mean among themselves.

[Puno] Let me ask this question to Col Carolina. As between the so-called rightist threat, the leftist threat, and the threat of the separatists, which do you consider the biggest threat?

[Carolina] Up to now, the biggest threat is the CPP-NPA. That is the most serious threat we are confronting right now. That is why the national campaign spoke of the leftist threat as the internal security threat. [passage omitted]

[Puno] There are many allegations about continuing disunity within the ranks of the AFP. How do you react to that, Gen Abadia?

[Abadia] I think we are more united now.

[Puno] You don't buy this thing about disunity.

[Abadia] No, no.

[Puno] Let me ask at the division level. Gen Yap?

[Yap] First, I would like to make a statement. I was the immediate past president of the National ROTC Alumni Association Incorporated and as such, nearly 80 percent of the officers' corps of the Armed Forces belongs to this organization. [passage omitted] And we are for unity. We supported the Constitution. In fact, even before the coup, we passed Resolution 7 of the National ROTC Organization supporting President Aquino and the Constitution. There is no enmity between the PMAers and the non-PMAers. We are one and indivisible. [passage omitted]

[Puno] Mr Eric Montesino asks: How do you rate our defense weapons compared to our ASEAN neighbors? Is the Army strong enough to defend our country? I think this is the idea that we are now going to move toward, external defense also. What are the details?

[Abadia] We are trailing behind our ASEAN neighbors and ASEAN armies. We have to really spend to improve our conventional capabilities.

[Puno] You are saying that but I think the budget of the AFP was cut 20 percent. How can we achieve that at a time when we are all belt tightening?

[Abadia] There is a light at the end of the tunnel, so to speak, because our leaders have inputted into the budget some 800 million pesos for the modernization program of the Armed Forces, particularly the Navy. That is a good start. And then we have this ongoing bases talks where one of the effects will be some funds dedicated to the modernization of the Philippine Air Force and the Philippine Navy.

[Puno] [passage omitted] Col Carolina, are you getting enough support from other services, like the Air Force and the Navy for example, in terms of softening up or helping you during actual operations?

[Carolina] In our area in Negros, we get much support from the Air Force. Of course, the kind of war we are fighting there is very different from what you saw in the Gulf. This is a counterinsurgency war; it is unconventional. So the kind of support we get from the Air Force is also air support. So in Negros, we get air support whenever we want it. Basically this is... especially now that we have the NV-520, the newly-arrived helicopters. We are now using it in Negros in combat operations. And we also have helicopters used for evacuation and also for lift capability. Basically, in this type of war, we get more support from the Air Force. Well, the Navy, normally we use the Navy for our bigger lift requirement for our troops. [passage omitted]

[Puno] Well gentlemen, thank you very much. Our time is up. I hope we have been able to get our people to understand a little bit more of what the Army is planning to do, particularly in very, very difficult times in the Philippines considering budget constraints and all of that. I wish you well and I congratulate the Army on its 94th anniversary. Maybe next year, on its 95th anniversary, we can talk about where we are at that point. Thank you very much.

PNP Chief Confirms 'Rift' Within MNLF

HK0904141491 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] PNP [Philippine National Police] Director General Cesar Nazareno confirmed there was a rift within the leadership of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF]. According to intelligence reports received by the PNP, MNLF Chief Nur Misuari has set up a task force to resolve the problem within the organization's ranks, particularly the group in Cotabato.

CPP Document Urges Avoiding 'Legal Mass Actions'

HK1004041991 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 9 Apr 91 p 3

[By Dario B. Agnote]

[Text] The executive committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), while ordering its armed city partisans to intensify its selective assassination campaign in the urban centers, has advised its urban guerillas to avoid joining legal mass actions so as not to give the military and the police an excuse to attack the rallyists.

"The armed city partisans should allow the gigantic mass actions to develop and avoid giving the enemy a chance to attack the legal democratic forces either by means of brutality or propaganda," the 1990 assessment paper prepared by the CPP's central committee said.

The 12-page document obtained by NEWSDAY pointed out that "offensive actions should be supportive but not openly linked to any mass action in accordance with the line that legal and defensive struggle is still the principal form of struggle in the urban areas."

The CPP's specific guidelines for the Alex Boncayao Brigade (ABB) or the Sparrows—which could be viewed as a modification of the ABB'S politico-military (polmil) struggle in the urban centers—were apparently based on experiences culled in the past years, including the mammoth Welga ng Bayan (national strike) held last year. Leading ABB cadres alleged that the military took advantage of the partisans' plan to burn buses owned by repressive transport operators. At least 21 vehicles were burned in different parts of the country during the Welga in October last year, but the ABB claimed responsibility for the burning of only five. The ABB blamed the rest on the military, which they allegedly did to gain propaganda mileage.

On several occasions, the military also attacked rallies and pickets on mere suspicion that these were heavily infiltrated by communist insurgents. "When physically attacked by the police and military troops, the unarmed rallyists are clearly seen as victims...if some armed elements insert themselves in the ranks of the demonstrators, they (military and police) can launch a brutal attack and try to gain propaganda advantage," the document said.

The CPP has paid particular attention to the "ripeness" of the country's economic and political situation which, it said, was similar to that prevailing in the 1983-86 period. "The current objective conditions in the country are favorable for the revolutionary forces and the people to advance boldly and win greater victories."

The document said two types of offensives must be launched this year and the coming years "to draw more strength"—armed tactical offensives in the countryside and gigantic mass actions in Metro Manila and other urban areas. Through armed tactical offensives, the document said the CPP, its armed wing the New People's Army (NPA), and the people could acquire the means for seizing political power. Through mass actions, the people would be aroused and mobilized, it added.

In carrying out offensives, the document said, the CPP must also "build on its ideological, political, and organizational strength and rectify the errors and shortcomings in every field and overcome these in order to advance the revolution." The document claimed that the NPA had now the "golden opportunity" to mount tactical offensives "at an accelerated rate" in the rural areas outside the metropolis.

"The armed tactical offensives can run as far as they can succeed," it added, "and the increase in the number of arms can be redistributed in a balance way among the sustainable bigger fighting units, smaller local units, and the militia."

Report on Insurgency Incidents in Cotabato, Quezon

HK1004065591 Quezon City MALAYA in English 10 Apr 91 p 2

[Text] Cotabato City—Four soldiers, including an Army lieutenant, ten communist guerillas, and a seven-year-old boy, were killed, and scores were wounded in a three-day fierce fighting between government troops and rebels at Barangay Batasan, Makilala, North Cotabato, the military reported today.

Army Col. Jose Valencia, 6th Infantry Division spokesman, identified the government fatalities as 2d Lt. Felix Alcobanas, Sgt. Tyson Sabatin, a certain Sgt. Tyson Sabatin, a certain Sgt. Alas and Cpl. Ronnie Cadorna, all members of the 27th Infantry Battalion. Killed in the crossfire was John-John Antas, 7. The identities of the New People's Army rebels were not given.

Meanwhile, in Pagbilao, Quezon, five unifentified communist guerillas were killed in a firefight with government troops Sunday afternoon in Barangay Binahaan. No casualty was reported on the government side.

In a report to Gen. Rodolfo Biazon, Armed Forces chief of staff, Brig. Gen. Clemente Mariano, commanding general of the 203rd Infantry Brigade, said his troops were on patrol mission in Barangay Binahaan, Pagbilao, when they encountered more than 15 heavily-armed men believed to be New People's Army rebels. Recovered from the enemy were five M-16 rifles, one pocket computer, 15 short magazines and several rounds of ammunition and voluminous subversive documents.

The running gunbattle in Makilala, North Cotabato, since April 6 until this morning, resulted in the evacuation of some 100 families to safer villages of the rebel-infested town. Some 10 villagers were also reported missing by the military. Soldiers recovered two Armalite rifles, a garand, four improvised land mines and a VHF hand-held radio from the dead rebels.

The communist guerrillas, reportedly led by Commander Benzar, used artillery and mortar, but withdrew towards the Arakan valley when two military helicopter gunships and some ground troop reinforcements arrived.

Benzar's 500-man band is said to be operating in the provinces of North Cotabato, Davao del Sur, Davao del Norte and part of South Cotabato. Its terroristic activities include toppling down of a transmission tower of the National Power Corp in Makilala last week and burning of passenger buses and hauling trucks along the Cotabato-Davao national highway.

Thailand

Reportage on Visit by PRC Vice Foreign Minister

Qi Huaiyuan Calls On Suchinda

BK0904134891 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] This afternoon, Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan and party, accompanied by Major General Thirawat Patthamanon, director of the Army Intelligence Department, paid a courtesy call on Army Commander General Suchinda Khraprayun at the Army conference hall. The Chinese vice foreign minister is on a visit to Thailand which extends from 8 to 13 April. Also present on the occasion were Lieutenant General Uam Manorat, assistant Army chief of staff for intelligence, and Army Secretary Major General Anuson Kritsanaserani.

The Chinese vice foreign minister's visit is part of the exchange program involving senior Chinese and Thai Foreign Ministry officials. He will also preside over the opening of the Chinese Consulate in Chiang Mai.

Qi Discusses Cambodia With Officials

BK1004014791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Apr 91 p 3

[Excerpts] Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin has agreed to visit China. The official invitation was conveyed yesterday by visiting Deputy Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan.

The deputy foreign minister held wide-ranging discussions with Thai officials led by Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Witthaya Wetchachiwa, as part of the Sino-Thai agreement for annual high-level consultations. Mr Qi also informed Mr Asa about the planned state visit of President Yang Shangkun to Thailand, which will be around June, Foreign Ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek said.

At yesterday's session, the Thai and Chinese officials discussed the situation after the Gulf war, Cambodia, and other regional issues. Today's session will focus on bilateral relations.

The deputy Foreign Minister reportedly reiterated the Chinese position on Cambodia, both during the consultations and during his talks with Foreign Minister Asa. He also urged Thailand to help persuade the Soviet Union and Vietnam to contribute to the settlement within the framework agreement put out by the Five Permanent Members of the UN Security Council. [passage omitted]

The team of Chinese officials was also told that Thailand hoped China would become a full member of APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) by next year, when Thailand would host the annual APEC ministerial meeting, the spokesman said.

The team met with Deputy Prime Minister Pow Sarasin and PM's Office Minister M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi at Government House yesterday. It will call on Gen Suchinda Khraprayun today. Mr Qi will preside over the official opening of China's Consulate General in Chiang Mai today.

Radio Reports Further

BK1004113691 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] Sakthip Krairoek, director of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, reported to newsmen on 9 April on Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan's call earlier that day on Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin and Permanent Secretary Witthaya Wetchachiwa. He said both sides discussed bilateral relations and agreed to continue to maintain close relations.

Both sides shared the view that the Cambodian problem should be solved along the lines proposed by the United Nations, and supported the role of the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia.

Sakthip said China pledged to ask the Soviet Union and Vietnam to encourage all four Cambodian factions to meet again in Jakarta. Thailand agreed with China concerning humanitarian and other forms of assistance to the three Cambodian resistance factions because they felt that the Heng Samrin faction has adopted a more aggressive stance. The assistance to the three resistance factions will help reduce the other side's strength.

Qi on Aid to Khmer Resistance

BK1004012791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Apr 91 p A5

[By Athiwibun Sisuworanan]

[Text] China pledged yesterday to continue to provide Cambodian resistance factions with humanitarian aid and "other assistance" in order to maintain a balance between their forces and their rival in Phnom Penh, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday.

Sakthip Krairoek said that China deemed it necessary to help the resistance forces in the wake of the United States' threat to cut assistance given to the two noncommunist factions in the tripartite coalition because of their cooperation with the Khmer Rouge, the third and strongest party in the coalition.

The spokesman quoted Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan as telling Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin during their meeting yesterday that the flow of assistance was aimed at softening Vietnam's nonconformist stand towards a peace settlement under United Nations' auspices.

Qi and his entourage are in town to discuss with Thai officials Sino-Thai relations and their cooperation in the region. The visit provides an opportunity for both sides to consider the future course of their cooperation after the political change which toppled the democratically-elected government of former Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan in February.

Asa told the Chinese minister that Thailand agreed that the flow of humanitarian aid to the Cambodian resistance should continue, said Sakthip. The spokesman denied that the subject of providing lethal aid to the Cambodian resistance had been discussed. Both sides reiterated the need for every party in the regional conflict to adhere to the peace settlement framework proposed by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, said Sakthip.

Qi and Asa agreed that a peace proposal recently initiated by Japan went beyond the UN framework and was irrelevant "as each Cambodian faction had already given away all it can give," Sakthip said. The Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister, who is responsible for Asian affairs, asked Thailand to continue striving for the peace settlement by persuading Vietnam and the Soviet Union to apply influence on Phnom Penh to agree to it, Sakthip said.

In responding to the request, Asa told the Chinese visitor that Thailand would try to persuade all Cambodian factions to attend the next round of peace talks in Jakarta, which was called for by the two co-chairmen of the Paris International Confernce on Cambodia. Asa also said that the interim government of Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun was now pursuing an impartial policy towards the conflict by promoting equal ties with all Cambodia factions.

Qi on 'New World Order' of U.S.

*BK1004015791 Bangkok THE NATION in English
10 Apr 91 p A4*

[By Athawibun Sisuworanan]

[Text] China opposes the US-proposed "New World Order" concept, as it would lead to world hegemony by a few powerful countries and deny small countries their self-determination, a senior Chinese official said yesterday.

Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Qi Huaiyuan made the comment during a meeting with Thai Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin, according to the Foreign Ministry's spokesman, Sakthip Krairoek.

Qi was quoted as saying that China upholds the principle that the sovereignty of all countries, big or small, must be respected without any condition. Qi, who is on a week-long visit, became the first top Chinese official to visit Thailand after the coup. The agenda included bilateral and regional issues as well as the international situation.

The introduction of a new world order concept might result in the imposition of the superpowers' interests on smaller countries, Sakthip quoted him as saying.

Citing the Middle East situation after the Gulf War as an example, Qi said the big powers are now trying to unilaterally resolve other regional conflicts, such as the Palestinian-Israeli problem, in a manner contradictory to the needs of the parties concerned. It is China's view that such regional conflicts should be resolved within the region, according to their needs, without influence from the outside, Qi said.

The visiting minister also called on Deputy Prime Minister Pol Gen Pow Sarasin, Army Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun and Foreign Ministry Permanent Secretary Witthaya Wetchachiwa.

Qi said that Chinese President Yang Shangkun would visit Thailand some time in June. Qi will preside over the opening ceremony of the new Chinese consulate in Chiang Mai today, Sakthip said.

Officer Says Laos Claiming Land in Chiang Rai

*BK1004073491 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai
10 Apr 91 p 21*

[Text] Colonel Wutthikrai Phalino, commander of the 3d Ranger Volunteer Regiment in Chiang Rai, disclosed that Lao authorities have claimed that an area in Phu Chifa situated in Thoeng District, Chiang Rai Province, belongs to Laos and Laos will ask for the land to be returned.

He said Thai and Lao regional authorities have already held talks with each other. If Laos insists on demanding the area be returned, Thailand will close the border as a retaliatory measure.

The armies and governments of the two countries have had talks with each other on the issue. It is therefore expected that the problem will be eased, the Thai military official concluded.

Khun Sa Urges Joint Effort To Eliminate Drugs

BK1004022391 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 Apr 91 p A5

[By Dom Suwawan and Kamphon Khotsaengma]

[Text] Chiang Mai—After being pounded by the Thai military and learning that Bangkok and Rangoon have agreed to launch a sustained campaign against him, Khun Sa is trying to wriggle out of a corner.

The drug kingpin wants Thailand to join forces with him and dissident ethnic groups to fight the Rangoon regime, claiming that this was the only way to get rid of the drug problem. He urged the Thai Government to refrain from helping the Burmese military junta to suppress his group if it wanted to eradicate heroin production and distribution, his aides said yesterday.

The message was in response to reports that the Thai and Burmese military have agreed to launch a sustained "search-and-destroy" campaign to suppress Khun Sa's personal army, Mong Tai Army [MTA], and disrupt its heroin production in the Golden Triangle. Most of the drugs come from the areas straddling the eastern front of the Burmese Northern State of Shan and Thailand's northern provinces of Mae Hong Son, Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai.

The Thai Government should help the MTA and other armed dissident ethnic groups to liberate the Shan State from Rangoon if it really wanted to eliminate the narcotic problem, MTA's liaison officer Khernsai Jaiyane and Khun Sa's political adviser Khwan Mung said in an interview with THE NATION.

Khernsai said the MTA had a post-liberation plan to improve its people's standard of living which would eventually do away with the need for them to depend on opium cultivation for their livelihood. Khernsai said Thailand stood to benefit from the abundant natural resources like timber and gem stones in Shan State. He also dismissed reports that Khun Sa's group was the biggest producer of heroin as inaccurate, saying his group was discouraging the people from growing opium.

However, he accepted that some of them still had to rely on opium cultivation as there was no other way they could earn a better income. "When we try to grow rice as a substitute crop, the military junta tries to cut the price of our rice crop, so what else we could do?" the MTA's liaison officer said.

Both Khernsai and Khwan Mung claimed that if the Thai and foreign governments helped the MTA to liberate the Shan State, it would stop growing opium. Khernsai suggested that the Thai Government apply the same policy as it did with the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT] with the Shan State in order to suppress the opium cultivation. The CPT was given amnesty in the early 80s which effectively drained the party of most of its members. "Why cannot this policy be effectively applied to the Shan State as it was by the Thai Government where the communists were concerned?" Khernsai said.

Khernsai also cited the United Wa State Army [UWSA] siding with the military junta to fight his group as hampering efforts to improve the people living standards. The military junta is currently financing and providing logistics to the heavily armed Wa seeking to capture Khun Sa's strongholds in the eastern front of the Shan State.

However, Khernsai believed that the Wa would eventually return to their fold to join in the fight to free the Shan State from the junta. "We do not think that Wa is our permanent foe and we still regard them as our brothers," he said. Khernsai said the military junta was using the Wa to fight his group in order to weaken both rival forces until they no longer posed a threat to the government. He believed with the democratization process inside Burma coming to a halt, the Wa and other ethnic minorities were driven into joining the military junta, hoping that it would help them. However, the alliance was based on convenience and for temporary benefits, said Khernsai who believed that those armed ethnic minorities would eventually distance themselves from the junta when they realize they will not get the freedom that they want.

Khernsai said MTA had tried many times but to no avail to negotiate with the Wa on joining in the liberation efforts and to explain to them that the Burmese Government was trying to sow the seeds of rivalry between the two groups in order to undermine the liberation of the Shan State. "We had so far sent six letters to the Wa but only one reached them and our negotiator was killed on the way to meet them," he said.

The fighting between MTA and UWSA flared up in 1989. About 2,000 troops of the Wa were reported killed, while the casualties on the MTA side was estimated at 7-800, according to Khernsai who claimed that all the battles were started by the Wa.

Khernsai said both side had engaged several times but only five which took place in the areas straddling Mae Ai District, Mae Chaem, Chiang Dao districts in Chiang Mai Province caused severe damage to the Thai side. He also claimed that the Thai military helped the Wa to fight the MTA. He said in a recent battle in Mae Ai district, Wa forces would not have been able to attack MTA's bases, if the Thai military had prevented them from passing through their camp on the Thai border opposite the MTA's bases in Doi Laktaeng and Doi Laem. Khernsai also claimed that the damage on Thai side from the spillover of fighting between Wa and MTA should be blamed on the Wa, the Burmese military and the Thai Army not the MTA.

The Third Army Region last month launched intensive attacks on Khun Sa's hide-outs on the two hills in what was officially described as retaliation for the deaths and injuries caused by stray mortar shells supposedly fired by Khun Sa's stroops.

Khernsai also denied the Thai military allegation that Thai loggers who won concessions from the military junta had colluded with Khun Sa in depleting the Thai forest on the border saying the group only allowed logging in the Shan state. He said MTA did not want to destroy the natural resource but logging was allowed out of consideration for the good relations with Thailand not with the Burmese Government. He also accepted that his group collected protection money from Thai loggers granted concession MTA's areas of control in Shan State, saying it was a tradition for those businessmen to seek approval from influential groups in logging areas.

Bomb Explodes at Textile Store; No Casualties

BK0904135491 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] At about 0650 today, a bomb exploded in front of V.L. Textile Company, situated at 134 Soi Wanit 1, Chakkrawat Road, Samphanthawong District. The company is a textile retail store owned by Wanlop Worachaiyut and Chaiwut Amonphirom. The two persons were not in the store at the time of the explosion. The force of the explosion caused damage to 14 nearby shops and many broken windows in shops opposite the explosion site. There were no casualties. The owners of the shops said they did not see the explosion as it occurred, but heard a very loud explosion.

Minister on Explosion, Article 27

BK0904141991 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Commenting on today's explosion at the textile market, Interior Minister General Itsaraphong Nunphakdi said the cause was a trade dispute.

[Begin Itsaraphong recording] It was a trade dispute. There is no cause for concern; it was not sabotage or an attempt against anyone's life. [end recording]

Regarding the call for use of Article 27 to control crime and people who wield destructive influence, Gen. Itsaraphong said Article 27 could be used for constructive or punishment purposes but the power to use it belongs to the prime minister and the supreme commander.

[Begin Itsaraphong recording, in progress] ...the prime minister and the supreme commander, in his position as chairman of the National Peacekeeping Assembly [NPA]. Any use of Article 27 will have to be considered thoroughly with the consent of NPA members and the prime minister. It will be used only in the cases that affect the people at large. Therefore, it is not likely that it will ever be used. [end recording]

Military Denies Involvement in 'Godfather' Killing

BK1004035591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Apr 91 p 1

[Text] Army Deputy Chief-of-Staff Lt-Gen Yutthana Kamdi yesterday denied allegations that the military was behind the murder of boxing "godfather" Khlaeo Thanikun last Friday.

Speaking to reporters at the Army meeting hall, Lt-Gen Yutthana said he did not think soldiers had anything to do with the gunning down of Khlaeo and his driver-bodyguard by unknown assassins armed with AK47 and M16 assault rifles and a hand grenade on the Pinklao-Nakhon Chaisi highway. "We shouldn't be saying such things. We should wait for the police investigation," Lt-Gen Yutthana said.

Asked what the National Peace-keeping Council [NPKC] would do as it is in charge of security, he said the NPKC was in charge of general security and it was the duty of the police to handle the case. "This is more a matter for the police. The NPKC wouldn't get involved in the details of their work," the general said.

Asked what would be done if the investigation found that military personnel were involved, Lt-Gen Yutthana sidestepped the question, saying that he had not been following the case and reporters should ask the police chief about it instead.

Spokesperson Outlines Government's Achievements

BK1004034591 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Apr 91 p 3

[Text] Government Spokesperson Mrs Ladawan Wongsiwong yesterday released a long list of achievements by the Government in its month in office.

She said although they were not major achievements or matters of policy "they reflect what the Government has done in the past one month."

Among the works undertaken are:

—Declaration of assets and liabilities of all the cabinet ministers to the commission to counter corruption within 15 days of the appointment to office. "This is a good example showing the honesty in government bureaucracy," said Mrs Ladawan.

—Price cuts of diesel, premium gasoline, bunker oil and LPG gas for cars and one-year postponement of debt repayment for farmers who are clients of the Bank of Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives to relieve hardships caused by drought.

—Banning caffeine in painkillers and liberalising the opening of drugstores.

—Lifting the ban against the setting up or expanding of 10 types of industries.

—Assigning the National Housing Authority and Port Authority of Thailand to provide housing for victims of the Khlong Toei chemical fire.

—Easing of foreign exchange controls.

Computer Groups Urge Delay in Software Protection

BK1004042191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 10 Apr 91 p 1

[From the Weekly Information Technology Section "Post Database"]

[Text] Local computer traders and user groups accused the Business Software Alliance [BSA] of trapping Thailand into software copyright protection and urged the Government to negotiate with the US Government before providing protection on computer software as well as calling for a delay in any implementation of software protection by 2-3 years.

Computer traders and user groups, which claimed they represented 70 percent of the PC compatible marketplace, held a meeting last week at the Jade Pavilion Hotel to discuss their situation after receiving "cease and desist" letters from the Business Software Alliance (BSA)'s representative lawyers, Damnoen, Somkiat and Bonnma recently.

The group's spokesman said that if the BSA's threat to take legal action on trademarks—which protects their rights under Thailand's trademark law—was carried out and if the court ruled in favour of the BSA in a trademark case, it would mean that the ruling covered both manuals and software. Therefore, he said, such a result would automatically bring about protection for software and meant that Thai law did protect copyright on software. An official of the law firm had said earlier that legal action would be taken on both trademark law, as well as copyright law.

The traders' representative went on to say that the decision on whether protection was provided for software or not should be a result of negotiation between the Thai and US Governments which might bring back some benefit to Thailand. However, he stressed, computer software copyright should not be protected under the trap of a small association like the BSA which he claimed was making opportunities through the law to benefit their country. "The law will be with us for life and if there is a software copyright law, we will not break it," he added.

Another member of the group said that he realised that there would be protection for computer software one day, but he wanted that protection to be delayed for 2-3 years in order that Thailand would have enough time to prepare itself for that situation. "The letters from BSA said that we have to stop marketing eligible software within 7 days after receiving the letter. It is impossible. We need more time." He noted that the Government would help solve this problem by setting up an office or award any existing agency to take care of this problem by negotiating with the US Government to buy some "mass use" software licences. He described that such national licences would represent an agreement between the Thai Government and US Government or US software manufacturers to sell their software to Thailand to Government agencies at one price with a coverage period of one year and during this licensing period, anybody could make unlimited copies of the software applications covered. This kind of agreement had already been made in Taiwan, he added.

He went on to say that the average price of PC compatible hardware was almost 20,000 baht to 60,000 baht here, and that users would have to pay more immediately for three basic pieces of software—DOS, dBASE and Lotus—costing around 20,000 baht. Many, he said, could not afford this extra cost. Moreover, he said, they did not use only these three packages but had to pay more for other packages. Therefore software cost is double or triple the price of hardware. He added that those people who used computers for personal use and students, would be affected most since almost all of them had limited budgets.

Government offices would also be affected since the Government usually allocated a budget for hardware only, said another member. One vendor said that "the NCC (National Computer Committee) controls the budget of Government agencies on buying PCs and systems but even the budget that the NCC approves to buy PCs usually does not include software." The group spokesman concluded that the group would continue to lobby the Government on this issue, adding that the second step would be to hold a seminar between vendors and users to find a solution and submit it to the relevant Government offices.

Vietnam

Envoy to UN on Ties With U.S., Cambodia Issue

BK1004115391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 10 Apr 91

[Text] A meeting was held at the office of the Vietnamese permanent representation at the United Nations in New York on 9 April between Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang, head of our permanent representation at the United Nations, and Mr. Richard Solomon, U.S. assistant secretary of state in charge of East Asia and the Pacific. This was the fifth formal meeting between Vietnam and the United States. The two sides dicussed the normalization of bilateral relations, the Cambodian issue, and other issues of mutual concern.

Speaking to newsmen after the meeting, Ambassador Trinh Xuan Lang said Vietnam has always demonstrated its goodwill in contributing to a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian issue on the basis of respect for the sovereignty and right to self-determination of the Cambodian people. The complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia is the most eloquent proof of that goodwill.

The ambassador stressed: The fact that Vietnam and the United States still have not normalized relations with the war having been over for 16 years is abnormal and not in conformity with the interests of the two countries, or the interests of peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

Radio on U.S. Contributions to Peace in Cambodia

BK1004040291 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Over the past month the United States has shown its concern over the process of settlement of the Cambodian issue. Assistant to the U.S. secretary of state, Solomon, last month toured Indonesia and some other Southeast Asian countries. His role was to study the stand of Beijing, Jakarta, and some other ASEAN countries on the settlement of the conflict in Cambodia. He told Chinese leaders that the United States has stopped its military aid to the Khmer Rouge. Worth mentioning is that Mr. Solomon seemed to support Vietnam's proposal for a cease-fire and a temporary halt in foreign aid to Cambodian factions.

The U.S. Congress is reported to be considering a cut in aid to opposition Cambodian troops. At present Washington is making all-out efforts to make this come true. Reports from New York on 6 April said Senator Edward Kennedy of the Democratic Party in Massachusetts has put forth a draft bill called Anti-Khmer Rouge Law 1991. If approved, this bill will put an end to all U.S. aid to opposition Cambodian forces against the Phnom Penh Government. Meanwhile, the U.S. Congress has increased its aid projects for Cambodian children. This year the United States will spend another $5 million on this purpose.

The United States has further shown its resolute attitude not to support the Khmer Rouge. Last week a delegation of the U.S. Congress led by Senator Robert Kerrey paid a visit to Cambodia. While there, Robert Kerrey told Cambodian leaders that U.S. President George Bush and the U.S. Congress want to bring peace to Cambodia without the return of the Pol Pot clique. He also made known that the United States of America is considering the settlement of the Cambodian issue and that he himself is trying hard to campaign for the lifting of the economic embargo against Cambodia and for more investment and aid by U.S. non-governmental organizations for Cambodia.

Generally speaking, the U.S. Congress held that the speed of the settlement of the Cambodian conflict is still low, though it has made an active contribution. It wants the U.S. Administration to step up activities for this process. Senator Edward Kennedy said that though the U.S. Congress would continue to bring pressure to bear upon the administration to change its policy toward Cambodia and Vietnam, those are [word indistinct] viewpoints as they show that many U.S. senators have recognized the legal Phnom Penh Government. The U.S. moves toward Cambodia are assessed in different ways. They are acknowledged as active contributions to promoting the process of settlement of the Cambodian issue.

Commentary Views Hun Sen Letter to Dumas, Alatas

BK0904101591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 8 Apr 91

[Commentary by Duong Quang Minh]

[Text] Hun Sen, chairman of the Cambodian Council of Ministers and member of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, recently sent a letter to French and Indonesian Foreign Ministers Roland Dumas and Ali Alatas, cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC], and to Ahmad Rafiuddin, under secretary general of the United Nations.

The letter contained two points:

First, members of the SNC of Cambodia regard their meeting with the cochairmen of the PICC in December 1990 as a new step foward. Therefore, the SNC members of the State of Cambodia deem it necessary to accelerate the process of peace achieved at the Paris conference by convening a formal meeting of the SNC members in conformity with the final communique of the PICC.

Second, to avoid bloodshed and to create an atmosphere of confidence conducive to peace, the SNC members of the State of Cambodia suggest that the cochairmen of the PICC and the UN secretary general exercise their influence in proposing a voluntary cease-fire and the cessation of arms supplies to all opposition factions. This will certainly set a decisive stage for peace in Cambodia.

Since it was established in mid-September 1990, the SNC has met only once, that was in Bangkok in December 1990. At this meeting, many differences still existed. To solve this problem, the SNC has no other choice but to reconvene, the sooner the better.

With its high sense of responsibility toward the country and people, since late last year, the State of Cambodia has issued many statements on the settlement of the Cambodian issue to various responsible or concerned international organizations and personalities. It has also proposed to the SNC members of the other side to reconvene the SNC meeting in Bangkok, Jakarta, or any other place.

In these messages, the State of Cambodia has always pointed out that the Cambodian issue is in a decisive stage and that the possibility of reaching a comprehensive political resolution on the basis of respect for Cambodia's sovereignty is approaching. What is necessary is the reconvening of the SNC meeting at an early date to resolve all the existing problems. The public in general has welcomed this rational stand.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Alatas said: The stage of preparation for the process of seeking a comprehensive political solution will begin with a meeting between the SNC and cochairmen of the PICC. Next will come a meeting of the permanent members of the UN Security Council, which will be followed by a meeting of the PICC's coordinating committee.

Meanwhile, the Australian Foreign Ministry stressed: In the Cambodian issue, we have traveled seven-eighths of the road. We must continue to travel the remaining one-eighth of the road even if it is difficult.

It is regrettable that the SNC members of the other side have not responded to the proposals of the SNC members of the State of Cambodia. Assisted and guided by a number of outside forces, they have deliberately tried to prevent the advancement of the SNC, the only legal organ of power that symbolizes the independence, sovereignty, and unification of Cambodia throughout the period of transition. They have jointly attacked and destroyed populated areas in western Cambodia, causing great loss of life and property among the local people and generating tension in a way unfavorable to the process of reaching a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian issue. They have also sought to slander the State of Cambodia, belittle the role of the SNC, and demand alteration of the agreements that have already been reached, including the composition of the SNC. [Words indistinct] because they have failed to achieve this through acts of war during the past 11 years. This clearly shows that they want to return to power in Cambodia once again.

Faced with this situation, the State of Cambodia recommends an early recovening of the SNC meeting, a voluntary cease-fire, and the cessation of foreign military aid to all Cambodian factions. All of these steps are strictly necessary. Without stopping foreign military aid to all Cambodian factions, it is impossible to avert war; without achieving a voluntary cease-fire, favorable conditions cannot be created for the implementation of the policy of national reconciliation; and without reconvening the SNC meeting, it is impossible to settle all the existing differences—a task that cannot be fulfilled by anyone except the SNC.

We fully support the proposals put forth to various international organizations and their members by the State of Cambodia for the settlement of the Cambodian issue. We consider this a logical, rational, and goodwilled act which shows the high sense of responsibility of the State of Cambodia toward its people and country.

AFP: Hong Kong Aviation Officials To Visit

BK0904131891 Hong Kong AFP in English 1244 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi, April 9 (AFP) - Hong Kong aviation and airline officials are due here late this month for talks on possible air links between the British colony and Vietnam, an informed source said.

The Hong Kong team, which would include civil aviation department officials and local airline representatives, was scheduled to arrive in Hanoi on April 24 and stay three or four days.

The two sides would "not be talking about a fully fledged air transport agreement," but the visit was rather a chance "for both sides to see where they might go," the source said. The Hong Kong Government had been seeking such direct talks, the first of their kind, for a few weeks, according to sources.

Representatives from the Hong Kong-based carrier, Cathay Pacific, had visited Vietnam already to meet local aviation officials and examine the airport in southern Ho Chi Minh City, sources said.

Cathay is reportedly keen to open up a link between the southern metropolis and Hong Kong, which is currently home to more than 50,000 Vietnamese who have fled their homeland. The problem of these Vietnamese, whom Hong Kong views as economic opportunists rather than genuine refugees and wants to repatriate, has held up the signing of a bilateral aviation agreement.

Other problems that need to be sorted out are which carriers will fly between Hong Kong and Vietnam, whether flights should be opened up to both Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi and the problem of whether Vietnam Airlines' fleet of Soviet aircraft should be allowed to fly to Hong Kong's Kai Tak Airport. The source said the "airlines can't get down to the nitty gritty until the governments have agreed."

Vietnam has tried to hire Boeing 737s from European charter companies but these attempts have come unstuck in the face of a 16-year-old U.S. trade embargo slapped on this country at the end of the Vietnam War.

Cathay faces competition from Dragonair and other smaller Hong Kong airlines and it also favours flying the potentially lucrative Ho Chi Minh route, which is a bigger draw among tourists, businessmen and Vietnamese living overseas.

One Western airline source based in Vietnam said he had heard Cathay might start flying to the south in June, but British sources here said only that they hoped a route would be opened up this year.

Several regional airlines fly to Ho Chi Minh City alongside Air France and Lufthansa of Germany. Cathay and Dragonair have flown here from Hong Kong with planeloads of Vietnamese opting for voluntary repatriation.

Le Quang Dao Returns From USSR, Romania

BK0904145891 Hanoi VNA in English 1310 GMT 9 Apr 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 9—A delegation of the National Assembly led by its Chairman Le Quang Dao returned here today from recent official visits to the Soviet Union and Romania.

It was welcomed back by State Council President Vo Chi Cong, Vice State Council President Nguyen Huu Tho, and Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Nguyen Khanh.

Soviet and Romanian Ambassadors to Vietnam R. L. Khamidulin and C. Mocanu were among the welcome party.

Commentary Assesses Party Platform, Part I

BK0904093591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 7 Apr 91

[Part I of TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN commentary by Colonel Nguyen Van Duc: "Could It Be the Platform Is Unnecessary or In Fact Is There Another Platform In Store?"; date not given]

[Text] Some news reports from the West recently disclosed that a certain Vietnamese contended that the main problem of the Seventh Party Congress does not lie in the platform but in the settlement of the organization issue. If the organizational problem could be solved as the author has petitioned, it would lead to a society long dreamt of. Let's consider what such a society is composed of and what this society will be like.

In his petition on the organizational problem, that author urged that the party should resolutely announce its turnover of all power to the popularly elected agencies and state, and disband a series of its components at the central, provincial, and grass-roots levels, and that the present supreme leaders of the various party central committees should voluntarily retire to give their positions to new people.

With such contents, is it right that the author wants to minimize and then deny our party's role in leading the revolution and the administration? Have politics ever been separated from organizations? If there are no party organizations what guarantee is there for the party to lead the revolution and the administration? As it has led the revolution and the administration, the party has to set forth correct political and organizational lines. On the strength of these political and organizational lines, the party led the people's struggle to win over the administration. Once the people have won over the administration, the party must lead the people to build and develop the role of that administration.

Party leadership is the primary factor in deciding that the administration is truly of the people, by the people, and for the people. In the machinery of this administration, all cadres—either party or non-party members—had to go through a democratic process in order to be entrusted with the responsibility of assuming vital positions. Our party members have occupied most of the vital positions in the state apparatus. They have been elected democratically according to the Constitution. This is also natural with respect to a ruling party. All parties are alike and a bourgeois party is no exception. Can't one see that all U.S. Presidents are heads of either the Democratic Party or the Republican Party which are the U.S. bourgeois parties?

Our party is now ruling and we still have many shortcomings in education and management. At present there is no small number of degenerate and deviant cadres who have abused their authority and have done wrong. Yet, no matter who they are, they cannot represent the fine nature of our party, state, and regime.

We assert that despite many shortcomings and mistakes, our party remains a revolutionary party and our state a revolutionary state. If all those degenerate and deviant people represented and sat in the party and the state machinery and if our party and state were no longer revolutionary, they would certainly have been unable to admit their shortcomings and mistakes. Moreover, they would not have been the initiators of the renovation process and could not have led the renovation and scored some initial yet very important results over the past few years.

Someone out there usually has indiscriminately interpreted phenomena as a core issue, considering a small mistake as a huge problem of the party. He takes our party and state as synonyms of renovation and bureaucracy closely linked to privileges and prerogatives. He is certainly not able to say [word indistinct] when that bureaucratic machinery is striving to wipe out bureaucratism and red tape mechanism and is still working with many difficulties and complexities. That person also thinks that a state machinery organized in the style of a bourgeois state will be less bureaucratic and less corrupt. [passage indistinct]

What political and social organizations are without shortcomings [words indistinct] and on this very basis they progress in history? Evidently, this is not to defend rotten cadres and members in our party. Our party has suffered much because of these rotten cadres and members and is strenuously detecting and dealing with them in order to purify the party and state machineries. The party does not conservatively claim that either the organizational machinery of our party and state is perfect or the relations between party organizations and the administration agencies are rational. We still have to do a great deal to improve and perfect this machinery, in terms of both organizational structure and work mechanism.

In the process of renovation and perfection, some organizations may be dissolved or face a reduction in force, while others may be strengthened. We are ready to study and apply any useful experiences on organizational and operating structures, especially the managerial structure of bourgeois states. These indispensable organizational problems should be raised at various party congresses and included in the regular activity programs of our party and state.

Facts show that our party and state have been making every effort to solve various organizational problems, both immediate and long-term. Solving organizational problems is aimed at ensuring better party leadership and more efficient state operating management while renovation is designed to maintain and strengthen party leadership over the administration as well as over the revolution. If the party failed to lead the administration once the people had regained the power, it would be regarded as failing to lead the revolution. In whatever fields of activity, leadership should be performed in all three aspects—political, ideological, and organizational.

Demanding that the party return power to the administration and that party cadres give up their responsibilities is tantamount to depriving the party of its leadership. One cannot help but ask if the author really means it when he says in his petition that the Seventh Party Congress will be the last chance for the party to maintain its leadership.

Commentary Assesses Party Platform, Part II

BK0904162391 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2330 GMT 8 Apr 91

[Part II of TAP CHI QUOC PHONG TOAN DAN commentary by Colonel Nguyen Van Duc: "Could It Be the Platform Is Unnecessary or In Fact Is There Another Platform In Store?"—date not given]

[Text] What about the so-called society that the author of the petition mentioned? He claimed that this is a privately-run economic society which would develop and in which international companies would invest, and capitalists, both at home and abroad, would join hands in exploiting its natural resources and utilizing its manpower. Naturally, one may understand that the author did not deny the presence of other economic components even though he failed to speak of them. But one also understands that the author only mentioned the capitalist economic composition and placed his high hopes on it. Therefore, one may immediately realize what kind of society of which the petitioner was dreaming. But the author did not speak directly of that society, but instead beat around the bush, citing one example of developed capitalist countries after another.

The author's argument goes like this: The peoples of various developed capitalist countries have over the past 200 years struggled constantly to shape their present-day system which is commonly mistaken by us as bourgeois democracy. According to the author, this system should have been called people's democracy because of its growing trend. Thus, the author held that in the world now there are no bourgeois countries but only people's democratic states. Capitalism has been popularized in these countries. The author also held that our people should pattern themselves after the model pursued by various developed capitalist countries, that is, the so-called people's democracy. Here the author forgot one basic thing, that is, to distinguish one social system from another one should see to what social class the administration in that society belongs as well as its type of economy. Apart from the socialist system, the people's democratic system itself also differs in principles from the bourgeois democratic system. The bourgeois democratic system is ruled by the administration of the bourgeoisie while its economy, also known as its infrastructure, is monopolized by the bourgeois economy. As for the people's democratic system and its transition to socialism, they should definitely be placed under the leadership of administration of the working class whose vanguard brigade is the ruling communist party and whose economy, also known as its infrastructure, is a multisectoral economy which, though also including capitalist economy, is led by the state-run economic sector.

Bourgeois economy under a people's democratic system during the transition to socialism is a legal economic component. However, it cannot enjoy a position as is the case with the capitalist system. Here we are not discussing the difference between the people's democratic economy and the socialist economy because the author of the petition did not mention it. With such an argument, how can he regard various developed capitalist countries as people's democratic nations? It is really a sophist's reasoning—a kind of reasoning that denies the historical facts about the existence of a bourgeois democracy and this democracy is a progress of mankind. But it now has become obsolete, for it advocates blending the two qualitatively different systems—namely the people's democratic system and the bourgeois democratic system.

In the same vein, the author of the petition analyzed: If the capitalist front is taking shape, then dialogue, which is a people's democratic front in the world, is also being built. Then what countries or what forces comprise the world's freshly-formed capitalist front? And what kind of front is it if these countries are imperialist nations which came into being a little more than half a century ago, and which have shared the same goal of coercing and enslaving the peoples of various nations? They are the colonialists who, under various forms, have been and are exploiting natural resources and manpower of Third World countries. They are those who waged the two world wars which claimed the lives of hundreds of millions people and who are now continuing to wage many never-ending, limited wars elsewhere in the world. Even for the time being, while the trend of detente and dialogue has emerged and is developing, there are many forces in various countries joining hands in waging a modern war against a small country. So far, the sound of gunfire is still heard on the battlefield because they are continuing to rattle their sabres and apply political, military, and economic pressure. They are ready to slap an embargo against any country that dares to refuse to be subjugated or to be obedient in the face of the implementation of their neocolonialism. Thus, what front should they be called and is that front still taking shape?

How about the path the author mapped out for our country to advance toward a people's democratic system? It is the way to set up a people's democratic front. This front, though not advocating an armed struggle, is said to have to resort to all forms of democratic struggle. Domestically, it is necessary to organize an apparatus consisting of only three components—namely an economic management mechanism, a ruling state mechanism dealing with administration and public security, and a cultural and ideological mechanism that controls news media. And the author's view on the method of administrative rule is that once there is a profit-seeking market economy in place, there should be no question of kindheartedness. Once it is a bureaucratic mechanism, it should not use the idea of kindheartedness as a watchword.

The author gave a prediction for social development, claiming that at a certain point, the capitalist mechanism will be restricted, its hands will be tied, and the name of capitalism or socialism will lose its meaning once the people's democratic front has fully developed its qualities. The author did not elaborate on whether it would change from one quality to another. Here we do not want to discuss each point of the author's erroneous argument. We also refrain from pointing out the contradictions in these arguments and do not examine on what the author based his idea of the convergent doctrine. When looking at the key, the erroneous points in the author's suggestion for building a socialist society in Vietnam, one may see that this suggestion does not have anything to do with the socialist renovation line that our party has mapped out since the Sixth Party Congress, that has won the sympathy of our people who are trying to introduce it into their daily life, and that will be reasserted by our party in the coming Seventh Party Congress. This makes us think of the author's statement that the policy lines put forth by the Sixth Party Congress are correct and that the chief problem of the Seventh Party Congress is not its platform. One cannot help wondering if this is what the author really meant or if he meant to introduce a new platform—a platform that tails after capitalism which the author called people's democracy.